THE CONFEDERATE.

A. M. GORMAN & CO., Proprietors.

TERMS:

DAILY EDITION, for 6 months.....$40
" " 3 " 20
" " 1 " 10
TRI-WEEKLY, for 6 months. 30
" " 3 " 15
WEEKLY EDITION, for 6 months..... 20

No subscriptions will be received on any other terms than the above, nor for a longer or shorter period.

WEEKLY CONFEDERATE.

VOL. 1. RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1865. NO. 41.

THE CONFEDERATE.

ADVERTISING.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at TWENTY DOLLARS per square of ten lines (or less) for each insertion. Marriage notices and obituaries will be charged as advertisements.

JOB WORK.

JOB WORK of every description will be executed at this Office with dispatch, and as neatly as can be done anywhere in the Southern Confederacy.

The Consolidation Bill.

Congress has had no measure before it of more importance than the Consolidation bill. Many Regiments, Battalions and Companies have fallen below the minimum, and there are supernumerary officers in large numbers, who have no soldiers to command. The effects of this state of things are, that those organizations have devoted upon them labors and duties which it is impossible for them to discharge, and the officers are subjected to exposures in much greater degree than if their ranks are full—for a Regiment, Battalion or Company cannot be called on to perform duties and face danger according to its numbers, but great or small, it answers to the calls made upon it as an organized body.

It will be seen at once then, how important it is to the troops and officers of these diminished organizations, that some steps should be taken to remove these evils. And the result has been that, after full counsel and discussion with the chief military officers, a bill has been introduced before Congress, to consolidate those who fall below the minimum. But every one will see how sad the necessity of such a policy. The number of a regiment, the letter of a company, have been immortalized by deeds of valor, the flag of a regiment scarred and rent with the balls of the enemy inscribed with names of battles wherein it has been conspicuous, has become sacred. The gallant officers and brave men who earned glory for the numbers and the letters, and who caused the inscription upon these immortal battle flags, how can they bear to part with these chosen emblems of their glorious service?

Again, privates, by this consolidation, will be separated from batile and camp comrades to whom they are bound by the ties of a long association, whose habits they have learned to conform to; whose reliance in battle they have learned to appreciate. This separation will be one of intense feeling to the soldier. These officers, many brave and good ones, must necessarily be dropped—must lose the commission for which they have labored, and must begin again in the ranks. We fear this measure will beget great dissatisfaction, heart-burning and sorrow. It ought not to be adopted except on the most stringent necessity. At the same time, it is absolutely certain, too apparent to be discussed, that something must be done to fill up these organizations, or their consolidation, with all its distressing incidents, is inevitable.

We sincerely trust that the patriotism of the North Carolina Legislature will be stimulated to bring out every available resource, so as to save the war-worn veterans from this galling necessity. There is exempted material enough in North Carolina to keep every regiment, battalion or company above the minimum mark. We trust these exemptions will be diminished; that our representatives and people will make one united effort of resistance against our enemies. We are abundantly able to resist successfully. With Lee's army never defeated, with other armies capable of a full and speedy reinforcement, is it possible that the people mean to let the cause be abandoned? O, that our words could convey to the people of North Carolina some adequate idea of the miseries in store for them, if this contest end in the achievement of the enemy's purposes. Then we are sure would be elicited an undivided, enthusiastic and courageous determination that would secure our independence.

Cheer Up.

The Columbia *Guardain* of the 14th, says it read a dispatch two days ago from President Davis to a gentleman of that city, in which he says that he will use every effort to defend and protect South Carolina, and that he loves her as much as the Yankees hate her. We are much encouraged by these declarations of the President, as we believe them to be sincere, and to signify a great deal. We beg our down hearted readers (if we have any) to remember that the safety of South Carolina is now the safety of Richmond and the Government itself. We are thus identified with all that claims the protection of Gen. Lee's army. Surely *that* is a tower of strength upon which to rely. Meanwhile every hand to its work—every man to his post. We live not for ourselves but for truth and God.

SHERMAN.—The Wilmington *Journal* says there is pretty strong reason to believe that Sherman commenced some movement on Friday or Saturday last from Port Royal Harbor. Any movement undertaken from that place seems necessarily designed to operate against some point in South Carolina.

From sundry givings out in Northern papers, it might be inferred that a part of General Serman's forces from Savannah under Slocum, were intended to move against Augusta, and thence strike across to Columbia, S. C., distant about seventy-five miles across the country. We yet think that the freshets still prevailing in Georgia and the Carolinas most seriously interfere with any immediate movements, although we cannot calculate upon this interference lasting over a few days.

We have received the *Daily Telegraph*, a new paper just commenced at Fayetteville, by Mr. W. H. Bernard. We extend to him the right hand of fellowship, and welcome him to the corps editorial.

"I cannot discuss this monstrous proposition without feelings of indignation and horror."

Such was the forcible language used by Mr. Dick in his late speech in the North Carolina Senate, to express his opposition to the use of the negro as a soldier. He had previously declared "that the most furious lunatic that ever wore a strait jacket, could not devise a more dangerous and rapid scheme for the ruin of the South," and that *he* "would sooner expect a direct miraculous interposition of Heaven to free us from our impending dangers; would sooner expect the sun of summer to stand still," &c.

Now, we are not intending to call in question the *taste* of such a *high flown* and *superlative* denunciation of a policy by Mr. Dick, to which Gen. Lee has not only given his sanction, but his earnest advocacy. Nor would we expect to distrust the self-satisfaction of Mr. Dick with his own opinion. On the contrary, we will do him the justice to say, that we doubt if he were at all conscious of Gen. Lee's opinion when he gave vent to his own. But it is not our purpose to compare Gen. Lee and Mr. Dick in any aspect.—Here is what we do mean to invite Mr. Dick's attention to. He seems to have a horror of employing the negro as a soldier, but he seems to have an equal horror of employing *white men*; for he prevents it by every vote for exemption that he can possibly give, and he bitterly opposes the conscription acts of Congress. Then either he thinks we can *fight* successfully without men, or that we have men enough to fight with, without any more; in both of which ideas Gen. Lee will quite as much disagree with him.

Again, he seems to have a horror of our employing the negro to fight *for us*, but his equanimity is not at all disturbed by the action of the enemy in employing him to fight *against us*; for he does not make a suggestion by which this may be prevented.

Again he seems to have a horror of our freeing the negro after he does fight faithfully *for us*, while he ignores entirely that the enemy free him at once, to induce him to fight *against us*. And when he opens his eyes wide in holy horror on the negroes being turned loose free in our midst, after aiding to secure our independence, he shuts them tight to the palpable fact that if the enemy succeed, *he* will turn loose in our midst an army of negro soldiers set free, and employed in fighting to subdue us.

We are enveloped in the mazes of this philosophy, and can't see our way out of it.

The Right Spirit.

It is refreshing to read the following patriotic sentiments in these times of reverse. The writer is not subject to conscription under the law, belonging as he does to a class that all concede is needed at home; and he is especially so. If all were actuated by this spirit, there could be no fear as to the result of this controversey with the north. The letter was written to a conscript officer. We give the following extract.

"With regard to going into the service, I feel about it as a matter of duty. It seems to me that now is the time, and from now on, for every man to do his part for the good of his cause. I am not depressed, but have an abiding confidence that we will accomplish our independence and freedom, provided we all do our duty really and faithfully. I am ready to do mine—not from any expectation of gain in any sense of the word—but really to do my *individual* part in the great work that is to be *done*; that is, to be accomplished; and if we do not all do our several parts, we are a *ruined* people. I am not disappointed at the continuance of the war. Where the end is, no man can say. It is in God's hands, and He will surely bring it to pass. But nevertheless we must work—*we, individually*, must work—must do our several parts—at the proper time, at the proper place, and in the proper manner. God grant that I may do mine."

From the Petersburg Front.

Reliable scouts just in from the interior and rear of Grant's lines, report complete inactivity on the part of the enemy, so far as any military movement is concerned. Nothing is on the tapis, nothing, as far as can be gleaned, even projected. The enemy is completely mud bound, and in this condition is calmly awating the issue of the movements elsewhere.

One thing, however, is very apparent in the enemy's camp—the incessant drilling of the troops. The white and the black soldiers, but particularly the latter, are daily put through the rigid discipline of the manual. In this respect, we think our own officers might be taught a lesson. Discipline in an army is everything, and the enemy appreciates it at its true value. By it they have taught their negro troops to brave the cannon and the rifle, and by it they mean to succeed, if possible, in the coming campaign. Our safety and the success of our cause depend greatly on the discipline exercised in our armies, and we cannot too closely imitate the example of our foe in practicing it.

The guns of the enemy were kept quiet yesterday—scarcely a report being heard at the front. The accounts published in the Northern journals of great damage being done the city by a recent shelling are false, from begin to end. —*Express, 14th.*

CAPTURED.—A corporal and four men (escaped Yankee prisoners from Florence, S. C.,) were near Elizabethtown, Bladen county, last week, endeavoring to cross the Cape Fear, making their way to Newbern. They were detected by a negro, who gave information of their whereabouts, and were delivered to the military authorities at Wilmington on Friday.—*State Journal.*

Somebody has been suggesting a comforting idea to the Wilmington *Journal*. It is known, the *Journal* says, that there have been tremendous freshets in nearly all our Southern rivers. The Roanoke has been tearing away farms, breaking dams and washing off bridges and the Neuse has been following suit. All the rivers in South Carolina have been and are mightily swollen, so much so, we learn, that Sherman has pretty certainly been forced back into Savannah. An immediate movement on his part is said to be improbable.

Now, we feel assured, says the Goldsboro' State Journal, of yesterday, that the attack on Wilmington and the advance of Sherman in South Carolina, were intended to be simultaneous, but it would appear as though Providence had again interfered to prevent the success of the enemy. Unless we are very much mistaken, he cannot advance for some time to come. God is on our side here, or at least circumstances have occurred and are occurring that look very much like a special intervention in our behalf. The belief is a comforting—a re-assuring belief—and we do not wish to permit any skepticism to deprive ourselves or others of the strength and confidence it imparts.

INCENDIARIES ABOUT!—We learn that some miscreant attempted to set fire to the residence of Mrs. Carter, in the Eastern Ward of this city, on Tuesday night last, but fortunately the fire was discovered in time to arrest the flames before much damage was done. The fire was built under the house, above which a considerable quantity of wood was stored, and combustible material piled around to insure communication with the floor.—The smoke poured through the cracks of the floor to such an extent as to waken a servant, when the alarm was given and the fire extinguished.

This may be but the beginning, and our citizens should be warned and on the alert to prevent a more successful attempt to fire the town. Our night watch have a most important duty to perform, and all should be vigilant and watchful.

The present sensation in Richmond is the arrival and departure of F. P. Blair, and the subsequent advent of Mr. Singleton, a peace democrat. Mr. Blair seems to have conducted his business with wonderful secrecy, so that not any one of the Richmond press has been able to fathom it. Many conjectures are afloat, all leaning to the supposition that his was an unofficial visit, made for the purpose of opening the way to negotiation for peace of a more official character.

We are very sure that any propositions, having in view the termination of the war by an honorable peace, will receive at the hands of the President just consideration, and that nothing will be left undone, on his part, which may aid in bringing about so desirable a result.

General Hospital No 1,

KITTRELL'S SPRINGS, January 16th, 1865.

Messrs Editors: The question of arming the slaves, seems to be agitating the public mind to a considerable extent. It may, or it may not be the best for the people of this Confederacy. I will not pretend to say, but will give my humble opinion upon the subject. Let Congress exert every energy to bring into the field every able bodied man, and make one grand effort to accomplish our independence, without the aid of the slave population. Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina are the only States in the Confederacy that have met the "conscription" act to the best of their ability. We have now East of the Mississippi over four hundred thousand arms bearing soldiers. Let them be taken; the Government can put it hands upon them if it will. Let it do it.—Let everything be tried before we put the negro upon equality with the soldiers of our hearth-stones. The idea of giving freedom to those who may join our arms and fight, is preposterous. As soon as we agree to do that, the Northern Government will issue a Proclamation, giving freedom and granting exemption to all who may desert our ranks and fly to them for protection. Ninety and nine out of every hundred that may be put into our army, will immediately desert upon the issuing of such a proclamation from Abraham Lincoln.

Some are in favor of giving ourselves up to England, France or some other power.—Messrs. Editors, *that time has not yet come*, thank God. We can, we must, *and we will yet gain our* independence, without the conscription of negroes, or aid from any other quarter. We are a strong, a mighty people. *We cannot, we will not be subjugated.* We are going to fight this war to a successful issue, nor ask the help of "any other man."

VERITAS.

The Asheville *News* of the 5th, received yesterday, says some of Col. Palmer's scouts encountered Kirk with three or four hundred men, near the Red Banks of Caney, a few days since, and a skirmish followed, in which the scouts had three or four men wounded. Being largely outnumbered, the scouts fell back. Col. Palmer, with a sufficient force, had gone up into that section.

Among other rumors prospective Executive appointments are those of Hannibal Hamlin, of Maine, as Minister to England; John P. Hale, of New Hampshire, as Minister to France; Samuel M. Harrington, Jr., of Delaware, as Minister to Hayti, and James J. Speed, of Kentucky, (now Attorney General,) as Minister to Prussia.

For the Confederate.

THE LINES OF GENERAL LEE.

BY J. K. MILLER.

Let *ubiium in parvo* be the note
By which we tune our faint-heart lyre,
How will its grandest music float,
In eloquence of living fire;
Let unity the spirit be,
In and behind the lines of Lee,
Then will the gates of tyranny,
E'en tremble at the spirit tread,
Of our unsubjugated dead.

Shake off your torper, daughters, sons!
Would you INVITE the Yankee *slave*,
To riot on your native turf,
And wring your heart-strings to the gravel
Oh, listen to the hopeful glee,
That thrills the lines of General Lee,
And grim Despair will quickly flee,
While with *one arm, one soul* we'll rush,
Where Freedom's purest waters gush.

Oh! look upon Thermopylæ!
Flaunt high the flag of struggling Greece!
Trust under God, our own strong arm,
And Heaven will send us *glorious* Peace.
Then, sweet, from every hill and lea,
Will rise incense of melody
And from the lines of General Lee,
Will march the great, immortal band,
That saved us and our native land.

Warren County, N. C.

It has been said that war has produced an increase of profanity and the other attendant vices. This is untrue. War serves only to unmask character; it does not materially change it. The man who is a profane swearer, or a drunkard or a thief or *roue* now, possessed these traits before; the present unsettled state of society is only the occasion for their display. The soldier who steals his comrade's haversack now, had it in his heart to steal before he became a soldier—he was restrained only by public sentiment or the fear of punishment, or deterred from the execution of his designs by the absence of a good opportunity.

The man who demeans himself disrespectfully before unprotected ladies now, would have done so before the war but for the fear of corporeal punishment at the hands of some male relative; the disturber of public worship when civil law is a nullity, was restrained aforetime only by a wholesome dread of statutes made and provided for the punishment of the disorderly and refractory.

The man who steals, embezzles, or otherwise appropriates government money or property, would steal his neighbor's horse, or his ox, or his swine, or his purse, could he do so with as little fear of detection and punishment.

The official who makes seizures of private property upon a false pretense, that he is so authorized by the Government, would be a highway robber but for a wholesome dread of punishment.

The officer who is abusive and cruel, or unnecessarily severe now, was a hector before the war,—he was only restrained by civil law.

The woman who is imprudent and immodest now, had it in her heart to be so before the war.

The man who makes a false return of tithes now would have acted as did Ananias and Sapphira, had he lived eighteen hundred years ago.—*Columbus Sun.*

History.

"Oh, liberty, what crimes are committed in thy name!" If we might be permitted to parody these celebrated words, we would say, "Oh, history, what fables are propagated in thy name!" The notorious Augusta *Chronicle*, in arraigning the Government for not sending a part of Lee's army to Georgia, says:

"It is said, however, that there were no forces to spare for this purpose. But it is vain to allege this, when General Early was sent at that time with an army to invade Maryland and Pennsylvania. That army could have been sent to the relief of Johnston.—Siegel had been whipped by Breckinridge, and the enemy had no formidable army then threatening the Valley of Virginia. It was the movement of Early that brought out the army of Sheridan.

A brief memorandum of facts and dates will answer the above:

Gen. Hunter, with a force of about 15,000 men, moved up the Valley, driving our small force before him. June 5, near New Hope, Augusta county, Gen. W. E. Jones ventured to give him battle and was defeated with heavy loss. Gen. Jones himself was killed. Gen. Hunter, no longer seriously obstructed, captured Staunton for the first time in the war, burned the public property; then moved on Lexington, which he entered on the 11th, and burned the Military Institute. He then pressed for Lynchburg. On the 13th and 14th his cavalry were on the railroads near Lynchburg. On the 17th he was skirmishing with our forces near Lynchburg, preparatory to attack. It was not till the 7th, (after Gen. Jones had been defeated,) that Gen. Breckinridge, with an inadequate force, was detached from Lee's army to cover Lynchburg. It was not till the 13th, (after the capture of Staunton and Lexington,) that Gen. Early was detached. He arrived at Lynchburg on the 18th, just in time to repel Hunter; when the retreat of the latter and his pursuit by Early commenced. It was such *necessity* as this that detached Early from Lee. The *Chronicle* says he might been spared for Georgia, as the enemy had no formidable army then threatening the Valley."

A REPORTER KILLED.—Mr. George C. Steadman, of Steadmansville, Kentucky, and attached to Captain Adam Johnson's command, was killed on the 10th of December at Morganfield, in his native State, in a hand to hand fight with the enemy. He was shot through the breast and lived only two or three hours. Mr. Steadman was for some time since the war, connected with the Richmond press, and possessed remarkable talent as a phonographic reporter. In 1863 he accompanied Lieutenant Beall on his expedition to the Chesapeake, and was captured with others, suffering a long imprisonment. Upon his release he returned to Richmond and renewed his connection with the press; but fired with a determination to aid in the redemption of his native State, he laid aside the pen, and grasping the sword, "nobly fighting fell." His remains were buried at his father's residence, Steadmansville.

From Wilmington.

We received no Wilmington papers yesterday, except those of the 16th, which ought to have reached us the day before. We subjoin the *Journal's* account of

THE SECOND ATTACK UPON WILMINGTON.

As already stated in Saturday's paper, the enemy suddenly appeared off our coast on Thursday night last, and commenced landing on Friday morning at daylight. On Friday they landed a considerable force differently stated by prisoners to be from ten to fifteen thousand and to be under the command of General Terry. Prisoners differ very much about the number, knowing or professing to know only the force on board the same vessels with themselves, which we think quite likely. All seem to agree upon the statement that General Terry is in command of the land forces.

On Friday the bombardment of Fort Fisher was heavy, especially so towards nightfall.—Up to six o'clock on Friday evening the casualties by the enemy's shelling were some forty-four, four being killed and about forty wounded. In the wounded is included Sergeant Thomas E. King of Southerlan's Battery, who was acting as a courier.

Mr. James A. Miller, chief Surgeon, reports fifty-two wounded as being received at Smithville from Fort Fisher on Saturday, also that three were killed, of which the names are given in his dispatch. We cannot as yet say whether these were all killed or wounded on Saturday, or include part of the sufferers on Friday. We learn that on Saturday and yesterday the bombardment continued heavy, although not heard here with any distinctness.

It is pretty certain that the enemy on Saturday had succeeded in extending their lines across to the river, which their skirmishers struck at Craig's Landing—the usual landing of steamers to and from Fort Fisher and Wilmington, and there captured the steamer James R. Grist. On Saturday night or Sunday morning the Grist, thus seized by the enemy, was blown up by the Confederate steamer Chicamauga. The Grist was a small Quartermaster's boat, old and of no great value.

As we write, about mid-day on Sunday—in such times there are no Sundays to which at present we can lay claim—the last report we have heard is that things remain pretty much in *statu quo*. The enemy are said to be entrenching across the narrow strip of land between Fort Fisher and Sugar Loaf, but had not landed either horses or artillery. Some deserters from the enemy, confined now in the military prison, say that the enemy's force consists of seven thousand whites and four thousand negroes. This is perhaps correct. Terry commands.

General Bragg telegraphed Sunday forenoon that all was quiet and that there was no cause for excitement or apprehension. The present attempt of the enemy is evidently destined to be more pertinacious and determined than the last.

Information received here through scouts says that the enemy, four thousand strong, started from Newbern on [illegible] the Wilmington and Weldon Road, but turned back, not deeming their numbers sufficient. They will probably start again when reinforced.

KILLED AND WOUNDED.

The following dispatch was received here late on Saturday night:

SMITHVILLE, Jan. 14th, 1864

Journal—

Fifty-two wounded received from Fort Fisher to-day. Sergeant Latham and Gillispie of Adams Light Battery, and Carter of Capt. Powell's Company, killed.

JAS. MILLER, Surgeon.

LATER

At half-past six last evening, (Sunday,) the enemy were making a heavy assault by land and sea. The bombardment was going on furiously. Gen. Whiting slightly wounded.

At seven and a half the fighting was still continued at the Fort—the enemy's infantry force far outnumbering ours. It is reported that the enemy had succeeded in establishing a battery on the river above Fort Fisher and below Sugar Loaf, cutting off communication with the Fort by water. An uneasy feeling pervades the community. The gallant defenders of Fort Fisher are passing through a terrible ordeal. God grant that they may pass through successfully.

The following official dispatch from General Bragg has been kindly handed to us:—

SUGAR LOAF, Jan. 15—8 P. M.

The sensational reports about Fisher are entirely unfounded. Official information from Gen. Whiting, of a later hour, reports enemy's attack unsuccessful. Fresh troops are being sent to him, and we are confident they will hold it.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

P. S.—Jan. 16—6 a. m.—Fisher was captured at 1 a. m., this morning.

The Carolinian has the following:

FATE OF FORT FISHER.

We stop the press to inform our readers of the bad news just received at Headquarters. Fort Fisher fell last night after an obstinate resistance. General Whiting, and staff, with about three thousand troops, are now in the hands of the enemy. The conflict within the Fort was a severe one, and lasted for two hours, hand to hand with the enemy. We have no heart to enter into details, nor to comment on this disastrous event. We may tell our readers however, that the gallant Whiting did his duty, but had to succumb to sheer force of numbers; having been assaulted on his sea, land and rear faces, by the soldiers, sailors and marines of the enemy. Our readers may rely on us to give them the whole truth after a few days.

The Goldsboro' State Journal of the 17th, has the following:

STILL LATER.

Private advices by the train last night state that the Yankees were shelling our forces near Battery Gatlin, or Sugar Loaf, some four miles from Fort Fisher.

In reference to the fall of Fisher, it is said that the Yankee attacks were resisted to the last. General Whiting behaved most nobly. After the enemy had carried the fort, he charged them three times and each time with his own hands tore down the Yankee flag and trampled it under foot. He was wounded in four places, but not seriously.

Colonel Lamb was also wounded.

Not more than 500 or 600 were lost. Very few were killed on our side. The enemy's loss is unknown, but it is supposed to be very heavy, as they assaulted our works several times.

A Document Suited to the Times.

The annexed letter from General Washington to Gen Harrison—one of the signers of the declaration of independence—is found in the Army and Navy Herald. If the "Father of his Country" had been portraying the condition of affairs in the second revolution, now in progress, he could not have drawn a more faithful picture:

To Benjamin Harrison:

DEAR SIR:—I have seen nothing since I came here, on the 22d inst., to change my opinion of men or measures, but abundant reasons to be convinced that our affairs are in a more distressed, ruinous and deplorable condition than they have been since the commencement of the war. By a faithful laborer in the cause; by a man who is daily extending his private estate, for not even the smallest earthly advantages, not common to all in case of a favorable issue to the dispute; by one who wishes the prosperity of America most devoutly, but sees it, or thinks he sees it, on the brink of ruin, you are besought most earnestly, my dear Col. Harrison, to exert yourself in endeavoring to rescue your country by sending your ablest men to Congress. These characters must not slumber nor sleep at home in such a time of pressing danger.—They must not content themselves with the enjoyment of places of honor or profit in their own State, while the common interests of America are smouldering and sinking in irreparable ruins, if a remedy is not soon applied, and in which these also must ultimately be involved.

If I could be called upon to draw a picture of the times and of men, from what I have seen, heard, and in part known, I should, in one word, say, that idleness, dissipation and extravagance seem to have laid fast hold of most of them; that speculation and an insatiable thirst for riches, seem to have got the better part of every other consideration, and almost of every order of men; that party disputes and personal quarrels are the great business of the day, while the momentous concerns of an empire, a great and accumulating debt, and want of credit, which, in its consequences, is the want of everything, are but secondary considerations, and postponed from day to day, and from week to week, as if our affairs were the most promising aspect. After drawing the picture, which, from my soul, I believe to be a true one, I need not now repeat to you that I am alarmed, and wish to see my countrymen aroused. I have no resentments, nor do I wish to point at particular characters. This I can declare to you, upon honor, for I have every attention paid me by Congress that I can possibly expect, and I have reason to think that I stand well in their estimation. But, in the present situation of things, I cannot help asking where [illegible] And why, if you are sufficiently impressed with danger, do you not, as New York has done in the case of Mr. Jay, send an extra member or two for at least a certain limited time, till the great business of the nation is put upon a more respectable and happy establishment? Our money is now sinking, fifty per cent. a day in this city, and I shall not be surprised, in the course of a few months, if a total stop is put to the currency of it; and yet an assembly, a dinner or supper that will cost three or four hundred pounds, will not only take men off from acting, but even from thinking of it, while a great part of the officers of the army, from absolute necessity, are quitting the service, and the more virtuous few, rather than do this, are sinking by sure degrees into beggary and want. I again repeat to you this is not an exaggerated account. That it is an alarming one, I do not deny, and I confess to you that I feel more real distress on account of the present appearance of things than I have at any time since the commencement of the dispute. But it is time to bid you adieu. Providence has heretofore taken us up when all other means and hopes seemed to be departing from us.

I am, yours, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

OFFICIAL ORDERS.—The following order has been issued from Gen. Gatlin's office:

Executive Dep't North Carolina,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, Raleigh, Jan. 13th, 1865.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No 6.

I. The enemy having again landed on our coast, the Guard for Home Defence in the Counties of Stokes, Yadkin, Davie, Rowan, Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Lincoln, Gaston and Cleaveland, and of all the Counties lying East of said Counties, will at once be called into the Field by their respective Regimental or Battalion Commanders, and forwarded with all possible dispatch to Goldsboro. All Company officers will be required to proceed with their Companies.

II. The Field and Staff Officers of the Regiments and Battalions of the First, Second and Third Classes, as organized by Brig. General C. Leventhorpe, will repair to Goldboro', and report to that officer, and be in readiness to receive the troops as they arrive.

III. It is hoped and expected that these orders will be obeyed with promptness and alacrity.

By order of Gov. VANCE:

R. C. GATLIN,
Adjutant General.

Immediately on the fall of Savannah, Gov. Andrew, of Massachusetts, despatched agents to that city to recruit black legalists for the national army, to be credited to the quota of that State. He then asked permission from the Secretary of War to do so, which was cheerfully accorded, and the documents will arrive out about the time the first squad is on its way to Massachusetts.

EXPENSIVE.—It is not generally known that the expenses of our government in caring for the Yankee prisoners, is over $300,000 a day, or according to the estimates of Mr. Trenholm, one tenth of the daily expense of the Confederacy.

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1865.

The Fall of Fort Fisher.

We have received the following account, from the lips of a gentleman who, we are sure, is as accurately informed concerning the late engagement between our forces and the enemy, at Fort Fisher, as any one.

The movement of the enemy was sudden, as we all know. After the previous failure, it was not anticipated that so quick a repetition of the effort would be made. Gen. Hoke had been withdrawn towards Wilmington, or above it. On Saturday, a Mr. McMillan—as our informant heard—discovered from near Topsail Sound, the approach of the enemy, and sought to communicate by telegraph to Gen. Bragg, the fact; but the operator was not in a condition to send the despatch, and it became necessary to transmit the news by a messenger. In two hours after the intelligence was received, Gen. Hoke was on the march to confront the enemy at his point of landing. On Friday, the enemy landed under cover of his fleet, near Battery Gatlin, about nine miles from Fort Fisher. While he was landing, Gen. Hoke appeared, and drew up in line parallel, to watch his movements, and intercept them when possible to do so. It was not possible to prevent the landing, owing to the situation of the point chosen. The enemy landed on the banks, just above the neck of the Sound, thus interposing a small surface of water between them and an attacking force; or compelling such force to circle around the lower extreme of the Sound;—either of which movements would have to be done under the fire of the whole fleet.

When Gen. Hoke found this to be the situation, he established a line facing the sea, and threw out what cavalry he required, (if he had it) on his right flank, towards Battery Anderson, which was down the beach, towards Fort Fisher—about four miles. The intervening country here is broken; and the low places are grown up with thick bushes, and are marshy. The purpose of this cavalry was to observe the movements, and give the signal of the first advance of the enemy towards establishing a line across the neck of land to the river, it being the order and purpose of Gen. Bragg to have Gen. Hoke attack him as soon as he advanced. In this condition matters rested until Friday night. During the night, the enemy, passing between the cavalry, and threading their way through the thick marshy undergrowth, made their way to the river, and on Saturday morning, Gen. Hoke found an intrenched line on his right flank, extending across the peninsular, from the sea to, or near to, the ing his base at Sugar Loaf, however, in maintaining changed his line, and informed Gen. Bragg of the status. Then Gen. Bragg gave the order to charge the enemy in their works. In the meantime, Gen. Hoke had made a close reconnoisance, under the fire of the enemy, and discovered the strength of their force and position. On receiving the order to charge, he communicated the result of his observations, and asked Gen. Bragg to reconnoitre in person, which he did; and both these officers concurred that it was not proper to assault the lines. It was then determined to reinforce the Fort; and steps were taken which, but for a natural, but as far as we can see, unblamable miscarriage, ought to have succeeded, failed to a great extent. By this time, the enemy, four thousand strong, were secure behind their works; and the fleet proceeded to bombard Fort Fisher, which was done uninterruptedly, until Sunday, about six, p. m.

On Sunday, the column of assault, numbering about four thousand, moved from the enemy's lines, and as they advanced, they were plainly visible from Fort Fisher. But her beleaguered garrison was kept close confined within the bomb proofs, by the concentrated and continued fire of seven hundred guns pouring torrents of shell and missiles on every spot. On the land side of Fort Fisher, we had seventeen guns—sufficient, could they have been used, to make it impossible that any force could have advanced under their fire. But, as the line of assailants got nearer to the Fort, the whole fleet concentrated the fire, in ricochet shot, on the land side, and specially dismounted every gun; and this unintermittent *"feu d'enfer"*—or in plain English—*hell fire*—was kept up until the enemy's line was in sixty yards of the works. Then it ceased, and with a rush and yell the charge was made. Capt. Braddy, it is said, commanded the company guarding the sally-port. On him the hope of the garrison hung, to keep the assailants out until the men and officers who had been packed in the bomb proofs for fifty-six hours, could get out and make ready. Instead of making defence, this officer and his command, it is said, surrendered and the enemy entered the open gate. Our men were benumbed and exhausted, and the thing was the work of a moment. They were obliged to fall back in order to rally. Col. Lamb, with that cool precision which distinguishes him as an officer of *great* merit, brought his men into line near Head Quarters, Gen. Whiting being present, encouraging and cheering on the troops, and creating enthusiasm by his ardent and whole-souled heroism. Under these inspiring influences, our men were brought to the charge. The numbers were against them in the proportion of four thousand aided by two thousand marines, to two thousand, but they forced the enemy back to the mound, and a hand to hand fight, of unmitigated desperation and fury, or such, continuing from seven to about ten o'clock, when bravery, endurance and devotion failed to overcome numbers. Our men were overpowered, and the work of assault was accomplished. But not until the enemy had paid dearly for his prize. He had not lost a man until he entered the fort. He lost two thousand, out of the six thousand that entered its precincts—we five hundred. Of the courage of our officers and men on this occasion, future tongues will speak.

Foremost in that little band of noble heroes, Whiting was everywhere where peril was most besetting. His voice cheered—his spirit animated—his arm struck down the foeman's flag. He put his life in the hollow of his hand, and held it out a free offering to his country. And, he did this so gloriously, that whoever thinks of him in connection with this furious struggle, will yield to the gratification of being absorbed in contemplation of splendid courage, and will forget all else.

We are glad to learn that he is but slightly wounded, though in several places; and we mourn the fact, that that faithful and true officer, Colonel Lamb, is so severely injured. That he may be spared, and blessed with a speedy recovery, ought to be the prayer of all our people.

If there be any fault in this matter, we leave others to find it. However great our loss, and sad our disappointment, we feel only like re-echoing the just sentiment of the *Conservative*—"All honor to the noble defenders of Fort Fisher, if they did not overcome a frightful odds, which mortals could not do."

We copy from the *Carolinian* at Wilmington, an account of the "Fall of Fisher."—As yet we have received no intelligence whatever of the fight, or the circumstances attending the assault on the Fort, the number of the attacking force, or the manner in which they were received. All we know is, that as a P. S. to a dispatch announcing that Fort Fisher was safe, the announcement was given that it had been assaulted and was lost, and that General Whiting and staff, and Colonel Lamb, were captured, with almost the entire garrison. Then come thousands of rumors, some detracting from the conduct of one officer, some from that of others; and the most that we can make out of it up to this time is, that it is a confusion and a muss—and to us a very heavy disaster.

Not caring to give publicity to bare rumors, we accept the statement of both the *Journal* and *Carolinian*, who were nearest the spot, as the most satisfactory account that can yet be furnished.

We readily accord to General Whiting the credit due to chivalrous and courageous conduct, and to Colonel Lamb for that cool, firm and devoted heroism which has made him long since conspicuous as a valuable officer. If the facts set forth by the *Carolinian* be true, no blame whatever can attach to General Bragg, and it will only remain for General Hoke to assign sufficient reasons for [illegible] to make, in order to establish a universal freedom from blame, on the part of the commanding officer.

When this is done, we shall have what appears to us to be a military phenomenon in this wise:—That about eleven thousand troops, without field artillery, land in surf boats under cover of a fleet, wade ashore, establish a line of entrenchments, in face of a force of observation more than half their equal in number, without let or hindrance; and after being so entrenched, they cut off a force, within a fort, from the aid of their outside friends, and then deliberately proceed to storm and take a fortification which has been constructed and strengthened during a term of four years by an unusual amount of labor, and by the very highest of engineering skill in the Confederacy, held by a force at least one-third in point of numbers of the attacking party; and while this deliberate and successful assault was going on, this auxiliary force in the rear of the attacking party cannot render the least particle of aid by firing a gun. This may be in strict accordance with the "art of war"—and it may be that the larger portion of the force sent to bear part in the defence of Wilmington, were only intended to *observe* the enemy's assault—as a matter of study—and that really there was no help for the lamentable result which has befallen—If this be so, it establishes one thing—that fortifications are a folly—that men had better be kept in the open field where they will at least have a chance of escape. The three thousand prisoners would now be worth something to us—the fort don't seem to have been worth anything.

If all the force had been employed from the time of the enemy's landing until the final result; if it were testified that all fought well, we should regard it as a misfortune of war to be borne uncomplainingly. As it stands, it is an enigma which we cannot explain.

General Hood returned from his campaign with a loss of not exceeding four thousand men—while that of the enemy was four-fold. He completely out-generaled Thomas in every movement; to such an extent, indeed, that favorite commander has been relieved by the Washington War Department. He succeeded in raising a large number of recruits in South and Western Kentucky, who, under General Lyon, still occupy that State.—That he was not wholly successful and that his name is not now hailed as one of the chiefest of our military leaders, is attributable to the accident at Nashville, against which no human intelligence could have provided. He has already suffered from much undeserved obliquy, but he bears all the opprobrium as the good and gallant and true soldier that he is, should do. He quietly remarks that he knows the penalty attending failure is the carping criticism and unqualified censure of a hasty public. But he is willing to cheerfully abide his time.

With the spirit of his noble army unbroken, with artillery sufficient for a force of fifty thousand men, with subordinate commanders who repose the greatest confidence in him, General Hood awaits an opportune moment to recover the prestige of the Army of Tennessee.—*Aug. Constitutionalist.*

From the Wilmington Carolinian.

The Fall of Fisher.

This calamitous event, which has thrown so much gloom over the community and the country generally, is too recent, too unexpected and too overwhelming to our people, for us to feel justified in the present excited condition of the public mind, to discuss it so as to present the whole truth to our readers. The meagerness of details, the scarcity of reliable intelligence, and the channels of information at our disposal are so few, that it is scarcely possible for the conductor of a public newspaper to avoid doing injustice to some one without the least intention of doing so. When a disaster occurs there is a disposition in human nature (Confederate human nature particularly,) to seize almost with fury on the first *thing*, be it General, Colonel, or Corporal, and on this *thing* empty all the angry bile we posses. It is also true that in every reverse, we the people of Confederate States, must have a scape-goat that must carry, whether it will or not, all our sins upon its head.

Fisher has fallen, but we cannot retake it by getting excited. Wilmington is threatened, but excitement will not repulse the enemy. As for ourselves, we would rather go in with our friend of the Richmond *Whig*, and get blue all over, than allow our excitable nature to start us on a high pressure journey, for we have some considerable quantity of *combustible* in us and it bears watching.

We wish we were in a position to state authoritatively, who is to blame for this disaster. We know Gen Whiting is not to blame, for we know, or can imagine, how his gallant soul must have chafed at finding himself beset on every side, with but few to face the compact and overwhelming numbers of the enemy. His conduct on the parapet of Fort Fisher, when with his gallant arm he tore down and trampled under his feet the flag of the enemy, reminds one more of the chivalrous daring of the lion-hearted Richard of England, than of anything we have read of in modern history. Whatever may happen to us by the fall of Fort Fisher, justice and truth compels us to say, and say emphatically, that Gen. Whiting's skill as an Engineer, or his bravery as an officer, cannot be impeached. In his wounded and suffering condition—a prisoner in the hands of the enemy—he stands higher in this community, and is enshrined deeper in the hearts of our people than he has ever been before. Our people now admire, love and respect him.—Nor is the heroism of Lamb forgotten or unappreciated. He, too, is in the hands of the enemy, and wounded. The entire country, with unprecedented unanimity, exonerates him from all blame. He did all he could, and did it well and gallantry. An angel could no more. Where shall we locate the blame? On Gen. Bragg, of course. We have been so accustomed to make him carry all of our *little* troubles, that we find it somewhat difficult to write down any other name that can possibly be retained or pressed into service to carry the burden of the odium of the fall of Fisher. He is our A. Q. M. of all Confederate disasters. Our readers, we know, some of them at any rate, will expect us to lay it on his shoulders with a heavy hand. And we are honest enough to confess that we were heartily disposed to indulge our readers in giving the General a whole broadside, double shotted and loaded. We felt like staying in this mood, and rather angrily insisted that he was to blame and no body else, until facts of an official character, which our determined stubbornness could not resist, convinced us that Gen. Bragg, in this occa[illegible] for this disaster. *We repeat it emphatically, Gen. Bragg, either before God, or man, is not responsible for the fall of Fort Fisher.* Gen. Bragg, who is Commander in-chief of the Department of North Carolina, was, and is only the agent of a higher power, whose policy and military administration, he is bound to carry out in every particular. Being, therefore, the instrument of a higher power, and obeying with military precision and exactness the orders of that power, he came into unpleasant collision with interests and persons, whose feelings could not in the nature of things, be other than inimical to him. We often blame the sheriff for all trouble which an unreasonable and exacting creditor brings upon us. We see the instrument that strikes us, and we retaliate, when it would be impossible to see the hand that wields it, or if seen, impossible, or unsafe to return evil for evil.

General Bragg gave the most positive orders to attack the enemy the moment he landed on the beach, but when the fact of his landing was ascertained, he immediately ordered an attack on the enemy's entrenchments, with all the forces at his disposal. The officer in command, who was ordered to make this attack, after carefully reconnoitering the position, declined. From the character of that officer, and the distinguished services he has heretofore performed for North Carolina in the field, we feel assured that his declination was the result of honest convictions of the hopelessness of the attempt. We know that officer personally, having served with him in the field, and feel perfectly satisfied that it would have been idle for any other man to attempt what he would decline. But the attack was declined, and now is General Bragg to be held responsible for this? We think, candidly, he ought not. Neither ought the officer who declined to sacrifice his men against strong earthen works defended by a force nearly double the number of his own, be held responsible for the fall of Fort Fisher. The truth is, the responsibility of this sad disaster rests either with those who did not send a sufficient number of troops to this place to defend it, or with the authorities who seemed at all times to act in relation to the attack on Wilmington, as if any such attempt on the part of the enemy was only the dream of a madman. The importance of Cape Fear river, like all good things men possess, is only appreciated when about to pass away from us. We think we could show in a very few sentences, did prudence and proper reticence permit, where certain troops might have been sent with advantage to the whole country.—But why saddle the sins of other men, in this case, upon a man who has, all along, in this war, been made to carry the burdens of other and higher men than himself. It is unjust.—It is cruel. No man to-day in the South had so much at stake at Fisher as General Bragg. He has lost all the worldly property he ever possessed, by this war, and what is more and dearer to a soldier's heart, grown grey in the service of his country, he has lost his reputation, which he has interposed between *his friends* and the odium of the public. He has in more than one instance during this war, shielded others by suffering silently the cruel taunts of his countrymen to pass unheeded.

This paper is not the partizan of any General in the service. We do not pretend to have any favorites. We never had intercourse of any kind with General Bragg. We are not under any obligation to him. But we love justice and truth, and therefore deprecate this abuse of a good man, a pure patriot, and, notwithstanding all that has occurred, one whom we believe to be an able General. We know what it is to suffer, on a very humble scale, it is true, from the first outburst of public feeling after a disaster, and therefore feel deeply for General Bragg, who we are confident is altogether blameless, so far as he had the control of matters.

The following is the bill noticed in our report of Friday last, as introduced in the House by Mr. Smith, of Johnston:

"A Bill to Call a Convention of the People."

WHEREAS, In the judgment of this General Assembly, the present condition of the country demands that the sovereign people of this State should assemble in convention, to effect, if possible, an honorable termination of the present war: and,

WHEREAS, On matters of such grave import, this General Assembly is reluctant to adopt any policy without first ascertaining the sense of the people, in whom all sovereignty resides;

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That upon the passage of this act the Governor of the State, be and he is hereby required to issue a proclamation commanding the sheriffs of the respective counties in the State to open the polls at the several precincts in said counties, on the 13th day of February, A. D., 1865, where and when all persons qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly may vote for or against a State Convention voting with a written or printed ticket "*Convention*," and those who do not wish a Convention, voting in the same way "*No Convention*," also to open polls at the said time and places for the election of delegates to the Convention to be assembled on such times as are hereinafter provided, said polls to be superintended by inspectors appointed by the sheriffs, with the advice of three justices of the peace of the respective counties, who shall be sworn according to the provisions of sec. 6, chap. 52 of Revised Code.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the sheriffs to make out duplicate statements of their polls in their respective counties on the question of Convention and No Convention, sworn to before the clerk of the County Court, one copy of which shall be deposited in said clerk's office, and the other copy transmitted to the Governor of the State at Raleigh under the same rules and regulations and under the same penalties as are prescribed in the case of the return of the vote for electors of President and Vice President of the Confederate States, as are now prescribed by law immediately after said election.

SEC. 3. *Be further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the Governor, as soon as he shall have received the returns of the sheriffs, in the presence of the Secretary of State, Public Treasurer, and Comptroller, to compare the the number for or against a Convention; and if it shall appear that a majority of the votes polled are in favor of a Convention he shall forthwith issue a proclamation in such a manner as he may think proper, summoning the delegates elected to said Convention as aforesaid to convene in Raleigh, on the 2d Monday in March, A. D., 1865, and if a majority of the votes polled are against a Convention, the Governor shall in like manner issue a proclamation of that fact; and in that case the assembling of the said delegates elected aforesaid under this act is hereby declared to be illegal and of no effect.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That the election for delegates as aforesaid shall be held and conducted in the same manner as elections for members of the General Assembly, and the vote shall be [illegible] compared and the certificates issued in the same manner as prescribed by law for the members of the House of Commons.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That if a vacancy shall occur by death, resignation, or removal from the State, or by the refusal to serve of any person elected delegate as aforesaid, the presiding officer of the Convention shall issue his writ to the sheriff of the county in which such vacancy may have occurred after such notice as the Convention may order, to open a poll to fill such vacancy, under the same rules and regulations as hereinbefore prescribed for the election of delegates.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That the said Convention shall consist of one hundred and twenty delegates, and each county shall be entitled to the same number of delegates as members of the House of Commons under the last apportionment.

SEC. 7. *Be it further enacted*, That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

GENERAL HOKE.—In our issue of the 18th, in an article headed "The Fall of Fisher," our readers will find the following sentence: "The officer in command who was ordered to make the attack, who after carefully reconnoitering the position, declined." We did not mention General Hoke by name, though 'tis well known here that he was the officer to whom the order was issued. We intended no reflection on General Hoke, as the continuation of our article will show; still, as paragraphs are often taken and commented on by themselves, we will now, in justice to that gallant officer, say he made a reconnoissance, and reported the carrying out of the order impracticable. Generals Bragg and Hoke then made a second reconnoissance together, when the former, finding the report of the latter correct rescinded the order. Our readers, who have with pleasure and interest followed the military career of General Hoke, know very well he is not one to fail in the hour of need, or be direlect in duty, and far be it from us to tarnish, even in our humble way, the fame of as brave and gallant an officer as ever drew a blade.—*Wil. Carolinian.*

The weather yesterday was very wet and unfashionable; at least very inconvenient for the present style of dresses. It was wonderful to see what loads of mud the dresses would gather up; but the dear creatures tugged away, and by dint of powerful exertion were enabled to drag through it,

——"but still the wonder grew,
How fragile silks could bear up all they drew."

PERSONAL.—Lieut. Gen. D. H. Hill has reached the city for the purpose of assuming command of the forces in this vicinity.

We congratulate our citizens and the public generally upon the appearance of Gen. Hill in our midst. He will, we trust, infuse new life into the despondent, and may haps cause a rething among the dry bones of the disaffected, if there be any such. There are few officers in the Confederacy of so exalted a reputation as this gallant North Carolinian. He opened the war with the splendid victory at Bethel, and since then whenever there have been fiard blows given the enemy—in Virginia, Maryland, and at Chickamauga, he has been a leader worthy of our cause.—*Augusta Constitutionalist.*

A gentleman writing to us from Caldwell county, a few days since, says "Rob's Green, one of our best citizens, was shot by the tories last Thursday, and his thigh broken" He was left lying in the road.—*Obser. Bulletin.*

Edward Everett.

Edward Everett, of Massachusetts, being dead, his speech on Washington will no doubt be now published. It will have a tremendous run in Yankeedom, as that nation is now making capital out of the "Life and Character of George Washington." Mr. Everett was among the number of Northern men who made professions of regard for the Constitutional rights of the South, and was pledged against the doctrine of coercion. Nevertheless, he became a furious advocate of war, and died a red hot abolitionist. He was an example, under a general rule in Yankeedom, of treachery and bad faith; and Fillmore, Dickinson and Dix are other examples, as Pierce and Thomas Seymour are both exceptions.

Edward Everett was an ornate speaker, a pretty declaimer, and his addresses will last a long time among collections of remarkable orations on popular occasions, such as Fourths of July, laying corner-stones and building monuments. What will most distinguish Mr. Everett will be, that he will be remembered in history as the associate in the last Presidential canvass, when there was a United States, on the ticket with that glorious old patriot and exile, John Bell, whose principles he afterward shamefully violated.

If Edward Everett has met George Washington in any realm where human affairs are permitted to be contemplated, we do not envy his emotions in the sacred presence.

On Peace.

The Washington *Chronicle* (15th) has a liberal and creditable editorial on the people of the South, entitled "Worthy Thoughts."—After asking the question, if the people of the South are so tired of the war, why do they fight with such tenacity? It answers it by a reference to the social influences and their high sense of honor. It avers that no gentleman could be more agreeable and no ladies more fascinating. It closes as follows:

Personal honor was the absorbing passion of the Southerner's life. The standard may have been faulty, but was rigidly adhered to. Such men may be heartily sick of a strife, but they will not abandon those engaged in it.—They may look for the close of the war, but they will not desert their colors. They may deplore the necessity for the dread onsets of forlorn battle-fields, but once on them they will conquer or die.

As deserters or willing captives, they know they will be ostracised from the homes of the friends they have when the contest is over.—Hence the war will be continued and desperate battles be fought, until, by common consent, the struggle is regarded as utterly hopeless, or until such terms are offered as they feel at liberty to accept.

Shall we deal with them as plucky, but erring brethren, whose sense of honor, defective as we may think it, must be respected, and whose pride of character should not be broken down; or shall we undertake to regard them lawless, defiant rebels, who are to be humbled, if not exterminated? Do we not want these courageous men, these enduring, high spirited men to unite with us in laying broad and deep the foundation of a democratic society that under the inspiration of [illegible] shall throw all our past prosperity, brilliant as it was, in the shade?

THE WAY OPEN SOUTH.—It gives us pleasure to state, on the authority of the gentlemanly Superintendent of the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad, Capt. Henry M. Drane, that his trains are now running through to Kingsville, and that communication is open to Columbia. Communication to Charleston and Augusta, via Kingsville, was expected to be open yesterday; at all events by to-day. Communication is also open to Charleston via Florence.

The late freshets have caused sad havoc with our railroads, in the way of washing up bridges and trestles. For several days no mail train has been enabled to pass Kingsville, either North or South, on account of the Congaree, which caused a portion of the bridge or trestle-work over that wide scene of swamp or river to be carried away. We are pleased to hear that these breaks have been repaired and we do fervently hope, that as matters now stand, our forces intended to meet a formidable foe at a certain point, may be enabled to get to the right place in the right time.—*Wil. Journal.*

We understand that on Thursday last there was some skirmishing between the left wing of our forces in the neighborhood of Sugar Loaf, and the Yankee infantry, who had made an advance from their entrenched position. During the afternoon, it is reported, whilst the Yankee vessels were engaged shelling the woods, their infantry made an attack on Clingman's brigade, occupying our left, with the evident intention of flanking them, but were repulsed and driven back to their entrenchments. No casualties have as yet been reported, but we learn that several of our men were wounded.

John Sipe, Co. B, 42d Reg't N. C. T., (of Newton, N. C.,) wounded in above skirmish, and brought to General Hospital No. 4, died on yesterday.

In the river below no movements have been made by the enemy's vessels that we are aware of.—*Wilmington Journal.*

THE QUOTATIONS OF GOLD.—Whether gold is to day held at fifty or an hundred, or an hundred and fifty for one, does not alter the fact that such a quotation is not based upon the depreciation in value of Confederate money. There are now before Congress bills for confiscating the property of those who have left the Confederate States to avoid military service. To avoid this confiscation, this property is being sold by the holders and the money converted into gold, to be sent abroad to these delinquent Confederates. Besides this, the negroes, who have been hoarding Confederate currency have been disposing of it, preparatory to running off. These, and similar causes, far more than the fall of Fort Fisher, constitute the real reason for the exorbitant price of gold.—*Rich. Dispatch.*

FASTING, HUMILIATION, ETC.—In the Senate of the Confederate States, on Wednesday, Mr. Watson, of Mississippi, offered a joint resolution, with a preamble, requesting the President of the Confederate States to appoint the 22nd of February next as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, with thanksgiving.—The resolution was passed.

Governor Fletcher issued a proclamation on the 14th, declaring Missouri a free State. In St. Louis there was an illumination.

TELEGRAPHIC

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION

From Charleston.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 17.—Nothing definite from Wheeler. One of the line of couriers who left from below McBride's bridge yesterday morning, reports the enemy still below. Deserters taken on that side, report that the 4th corps had crossed at Point Royal. A courier says there was cavalry, artillery and infantry coming from Coosawatchee; the forces they believed to be concentrating above McPhersonville.

Confederate Congress.

RICHMOND, Jan. 19.—In the House, today, Marshall's resolution relative to cotton and tobacco, were adopted—yeas 45, nays 31.

In the Senate, joint resolutions of thanks to Gen. Standwatie, Col. Gana and Gen. John S. Williams, and the officers and men of their respective commands, were unanimously concurred in.

At the expiration of the morning hour, Mr. Foote rose to a question of privilege, and addressed the House for upwards of two hours. At the close of his remarks he asked leave of absence for two months, but subsequently withdrew the application. Mr. Sneed submitted a preamble and resolution, declaring Foote unworthy to occupy a seat upon the floor of the House and hereby expelled. Referred to the committee on elections—yeas 44, nays 36.

The Senate passed the House bill concerning the Cherokee Indians unanimously, and concurred in House resolution for an address to the people of the Confederate States. After executive session adjourned.

RICHMOND, Jan. 20.—The Senate passed the House bill authorizing the establishment of the office of deposit in connection with the Treasury. The consolidation bill was further discussed till adjournment.

In the House, Mr. J. M. Leach submitted a resolution declaring that no exigency exists justifying the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus. Rejected—yeas 26, nays 43. The Senate bill authorizing reserve troops to be removed from one State to another, passed—yeas 63, nays 16.—The exemption bill was further considered without any result.

From Richmond.

RICHMOND, Jan. 20.—The Examiner asserts that the Senate in secret session adopted resolutions creating the office of commander in chief of all the armies of the Confederacy and recommending the reinstatement of Gen. Johnston by a vote of Yeas 20 Nays 2. And that the House in secret session concurred in said resolutions Yeas 62 Nays 14. The Examiner also says Hood has been relieved, it is said at his own request.—The army is believed to be under the command of Dick Taylor.

Northern News.

RICHMOND, Jan. 19.—Northern papers 17th, received. A Washington telegram to the Philadelphia Enquirer of the 16th, says Blair called upon the President this evening and spent several hours there. To gentlemen who addressed him upon the subject, he remarked he had an interview with Jeff. Davis, but what passed he could not divulge to any one at present except the President. That his expedition was highly satisfactory and might be known in proper time.

Sherman was at Clifton, Wayne county, last Saturday. Roads in very bad condition.

In the House of Representatives on Monday, Mr. Cox offered a resolution in favor of the appointment of peace commissioners, which were laid on the table—yeas 84, nays 51.

Further from the North.

RICHMOND, Jan. 20.—Northern papers of the 18th have been received, they are chiefly filled with official and unofficial reports of the capture of Fort Fisher. The Baltimore American says the fleet and army transports sailed together from Beaufort and arrived at the scene of operations on Friday. The troops promptly landed without opposition Friday and Saturday and commenced the bombardment of the Fort, the navy fire being unprecedently heavy. Sunday the assault was made, in this the navy assisted, Porter having landed two thousand seamen and marines with orders to board the Fort on the sea face. The troops commanded by Terry, consisted [illegible] which participated in Butler's fiasco, strengthened by an additional brigade. The assault commenced at half past three in the afternoon, full possession of the works was obtained at ten, after desperate sanguinary fight. The Federal loss heavy especially in officers, Gen. Curtis wounded.

The garrison fell back to the extreme of Federal Point where they were captured.

The American says, we captured over two thousand prisoners, including Gen Whiting and Col Lamb both wounded, and seventy-two guns.

After the Fort was occupied the magazine was exploded by accident killing 200 Yankees, wounding a great many.

Yankee loss during the fight was about nine hundred killed and wounded. The rebel loss was about five hundred.

General Meagher arrived at Nashville on Saturday from Chattanooga with several thousand men on their way to Sherman via New York.

Gold 215.

SCOTCH AND HIGH-TOAST SNUFF.

The "DIXIE LADY" Scotch Snuff, is manufactured by CLARK & MILLER, Graham, N. C.

This finely levigated Snuff is manufactured of the best materials, with a determination to make it the best dentrifice now offered to the public, great care being taken to have all the ingredients free from dirt, or other impurities.

It is prepared under the immediate management and supervision of a fearful perach who has had much experience in the employ of the LOVILLARDS, in their Snuff Factory, in New York City.

The HIGH-TOAST is a Salt Snuff. Also, put up in packages of half pound each, in boxes of fifty pounds, the justly celebrated old "STONE-WALL" Smoking Tobacco, and CIGARS of the finest quality that is put up in the Confederate States, by H. J. B. CLARK.

jan 18-d2taw6w

NORTH CAROLINA, } GRANVILLE COUNTY.
COURT OF PLEAS AND QUARTER SESSION.

November Term 1864.

ELESABETH BERKLEY.
vs.
James S. Lewis and Wife Amanda, Nancy S. Newlon and others.

Petition for Dower.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that Henry W. Berkley, one of the defendants in this case, resides beyond the limits of this State; it is therefore, on motion, ordered by the Court, that advertisement be made for six weeks successively in the Confederate, a newspaper published in the city of Raleigh, notifying the said defendant, of the filing of this petition, and that unless he appears at the next term of this Court and answers the petition, the same will be taken pro confesso and heard exparte as to him.

Witness Augustine Landis, Clerk of said Court, at Oxford the first Monday of November, A. D. 1864.

A. LANDIS, C. C. C.

dec 14, 1864. 3w—6w.

$500 REWARD.

STRAYED OR STOLEN from the quarters of the A. Q. M., of Dearing's Cavalry Brigade, on the night of the 5th inst., a BLOOD BAY HORSE, eight years old, about five feet, two inches high, very small star in forehead, white spot, from gald, on the back, and a hole, the size of a partridge egg, at the point of the right shoulder. The above reward will be given to any one who will return him to me, or give information that will lead to his recovery. J. L. PRIDGEN,
Co. F, 16th N. C. Battalion, (Cav.,)
40-w1t* Richford, Va.

[illegible] Petersburg Express copy twice.

A PRIVATE SCHOOL.

The FIFTH SESSION of MI S MANGUM'S SCHOOL for young Ladies, will begin on the 10th of February. Only a limited number of pupils can be received.

For further information, address Miss M. P. Mangum, Flat River Orange County N. C.

dec. 28-w6w.

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1865.

In the histories of war, it is a remarkable fact, that peace most frequently comes when least expected.

In the late war—undertaken by the allies in Europe, against Austria—negotiations and peace followed immediately upon the battle of Solferino, when the contest was fierce, the carnage dreadful, and the results near equal, and a long war seemed absolutely certain.

In the revolution of our forefathers, success to our army, deliverance from the foe, peace and independence followed each other in rapid succession, coming out of the gloom and darkness of defeat, internal dissension, popular despondency, territorial captures and occupation; surprising every body by the suddeness and rapidity of the change from despair to confidence; from submission to determined resistance; from defeat to victory. *And so it will come again.* It ought to have so come before now. Sherman made a Christmas present to his master, Abe Lincoln—as his best friends call him—of the city of Savannah; but Providence made a gift to the Confederacy of *Sherman himself*, if the spirit of the people had been up to the requirements of the hour. But for the baleful and depressing influences which had sunk down the popular spirit, he never would have been allowed to walk through Georgia alive; and the saddest reflection is the opportunity has been lost.

When Terry landed on the narrow neck of land, where Fort Fisher sat in her pride and strength, his force became the legitimate prisoners of war to Confederate valor, and strategy and power; and the rudest part of this disappointment is, that another *opportunity* has been *lost*. But any day, any moment may bring the cheering news of victory. The game of war is a see-saw. Its vicisitudes go up and down; and if a victory do not come now, immediately, other cheering intelligence may be on the wing. Indeed, there are signs, more numerous and better authenticated, than ever before, that negotiations of peace—well founded—in the hands of the legitimate authority, supported by circumstances of controlling influence, are already about to be initiated.

An air of almost positive assurance is given to the rumor, that distinct propositions, guaranteeing our independence, have come to our Government from England and France. The evidences of these are fresh in the minds of those who have read the late news: the publications in the two leading papers of Richmond, the visit of F. P. Blair, and his statement on his return, of how satisfactory was his interview with President Davis; and the immediate visit of Gen. Singleton, a representative man of the Northern peace party. General Sinlgeton is a friend and neighbor of Lincoln, and has his respect and confidence; he visits Richmond by permission, to ascertain by friendly intercourse with our authorities, the sentiments of our government and people, in order, if possible, to close the war by a treaty of peace. The anxiety of the North for peace is another evidence. So great is this anxiety, that the New York *Tribune*—the controlling sheet of the radical abolition party—intimates that "*the total abolition of slavery*" will not be insisted on; nor will it be insisted "that such measures be taken by the South as will secure the extinction of slavery within a reasonable time—This, if it were sincere, would be an utter dethronement of the Ebon Idol—the deity of Black Republican adoration. But, without accepting this as sincere, it adds weight to the probability of another evidence of coming peace. We mean, the probability of European intervention. It has come by letter from correspondents in Europe to their friends in the South, that England and France do not mean to postpone our recognition beyond the fourth of March. It has been published in the London papers that Lord John Russell has so signified to Mr. Mason. Correspondents have written the same to Yankee journals; and significant intimations have been given, that such notification was within the knowledge of the Confederate government and that of the Federals We admit that like rumors heretofore prevailed; and for one, we looked, long since, to see them realized.—We had good reason so to believe; but the circumstances in their favor are stronger now than ever. One thing is beyond dispute: In order to get negotiations at all, short of abject submission—*which no one advocates openly*;—especially, in order to get negotiations at all favorable, it is important that we should hold our own; that we should stand manfully to our work. One victory—one successful resistance—would give us a vantage ground towards negotiations, when they are entered on, while national prostration places us in the power of the foe.

Unquestionably, the north, besides its war with us, is accumulating foreign complications on its shoulders. The Federal Congress has given notice of the abrogation of the treaty of reciprocity. Vessels of war are to be built on the Lakes, as a menace to Canada, and passports, for the first time, are required of passengers coming from Montreal to New York. All these are acts of direct hostility towards England. Towards France, a like hostile disposition is manifested. At the last session of the Federal Congress, the Monroe doctrine was declared by the House of Representatives; and Mr. Seward was obliged to explain at Paris that such was not the act of the government. He did so, by calling to the attention of the French minister, that the Senate had not acted on the House resolution, and assuring that Maximilian would be recognized. At this session, but the other day, the Federal Senate was discussing the appropriations for the pay of Consuls. When that part of the bill, referring to the U. S. Consuls in Mexico, was reached, Mr. Wade moved to amend, by inserting the words "Republic of" before Mexico,—saying, he would have nothing to do with the Empire,—which was adopted. And thus the Senate of Lincoln sets a full defiance to Louis Napoleon, in the teeth of Seward's false promises. Louis Napoleon is not the man to allow any one to *out-cunning* him. Besides, Yankee ship masters have taken out letters of Marque from the fugitive President of Mexico, Juarez; and French vessels have been obliged to sail under convoy from Vera Cruz to Bordeaux. There are strong evidences that England and France are coming to reason and justice, and that the Yankee Government is finding it out.

Then let the hopes, energies, pride and courage of our people be aroused; let the government be sustained; let the glorious cause, to which we pledged ourselves in 1861, be upheld. "The night is far spent—the day is at hand!"

Theory of submission waxes bolder than that of resistance ever did from the same lungs. As the misfortunes of war press the country, they who have most contributed to produce the disasters, seize with fresh avidity the opportunity to push the misfortunes yet further.

We stand where we have ever stood, defying the false hearted and cowardly, and defying the murderous enemy who answers to their call. It is true our counsel has not been taken, or this state of things would never have happened, and we still say to the people—ye have yet your destiny in your own hands. If Southern men are *men*: if the spirit of the army, as it has shown itself in its heroic past, yet breathes in the people, they are safe. The advantages obtained by the enemy have not yet struck a vital part. And even if the people had determined to succumb, there is *yet much*—much to do before the cause will be lost. A nation does not die at a single gasp. If our advice is worth anything to heedless men who are indulging in the most forward self-committals, we would admonish them that they may be *too soon*, and that they may see the day when they would wish *words* which they have uttered had never been spoken.

And to the people at large we would say—to those who have sons and brothers in the army—you have not been beaten by the forces of the enemy. Are you to be scared to death by the lamentations of croakers?

Proper Retaliation.

On the question of making more Magistrates for the county of Wake, the nominations were rejected in the Senate, by two majority. Whereupon our worthy Senator, Mr. Wiley D. Jones, in a spirit of *proper retaliation*, moved to reconsider the appointments made on that day for other counties, which was done, and the whole batch *laid on the table*. This was just and right. If there be a county in the State which *needs* magistrate's it is Wake. We don't mean by this that *any* county does—but ours if any. Besides, who knows but Justices of the Peace may be the very class at last to close this war—and the more of them, the larger the division or brigade.

Hood's Losses.—Intelligent officers who have arrived at Charleston from Hood's army say his losses were much less than reported. Eight thousand will cover all casualties during the campaign. He has plenty of artillery.

From Wilmington.

The *Carolinian* of the 19th, says—Major Venable carried a flag of truce within the enemy's lines on yesterday, and returned last night. The details are meagre, as the officer in charge could obtain very little information from the enemy. We are happy to learn, however, that Gen. Whiting and Col. Lamb, are both doing well.

The slaughter in the Fort was immense.—The killed and wounded, we are informed, will reach five or six hundred.

A large number of letters was received, which will immediately be forwarded, by our prompt and efficient Post Master, to their respective destinations. May God comfort the bereaved, who will never receive letters from loved and familiar hands.

THE SITUATION.

There is nothing new from below, and the relative situation of the forces facing each other remain unchanged, since our issue yesterday. We have made no movement, and the enemy seems content to watch us, from within his entrenchments.

We learn from good authority, that the number of gunboats now in the river amount to seventeen, and are quietly riding at anchor in the rear of Fort Fisher. We had rumors of all kinds flying about the streets during the day, but our people are learning to treat such things at their true value, and fail to affect their demeanor or digestion. Should any new movement become necessary, our readers will be advised of it in due time.

The following list comprises all the wounded that have been received so far at General Hospital No. 4:

Capt James S Lane, Co. D, 40th N C T, eyes, slight.

Daniel Benfield, Co. K, 42d N C T, mouth, dangerously—Charlotte, N C.

W T Thigpen, Co. D, 66th N C, contusion of face—Kinston, N C.

W H Kennedy, Co. H, 66th N C, contusion of hip—Hallsville, N C.

Elijah Watters, Co. D, 66th contusion—Jacksonville, N C.

W A Darrell, Co. H, 27th Georgia, gunshot in back, severe—McDonald, Geo.

John C Smith, Co. A, 27th Georgia, contusion shoulders, severe—Taswell, Geo.

Andrew White, Co. D, 27th Geo., shot through groin, severe—Gainesville, Geo

Daniel E Simms, Co. H, 51st N C, finger—Fayetteville, N C.

Josiah L Watts, Co. H, 8th N C, flesh wound cheek—Mount Pleasant, N C.

Josiah Young, Co. I, 8th N C, contusion right hand—McRae's Store, N C.

With the exception of Capt. Lane, the above were all wounded in skirmishing in the neighborhood of Sugar Loaf.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, January 19th, 1865.

The proceedings were opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Craven of the Methodist Church.—After the reading of the journal, several nominations for appointment as magistrates were made, among them Messrs. W. B. Fowler, W. R Richardson, E. E. Gill, and Patrick McGowan of Wake county. The question being on concurring in these nominations,

Mr. Long said he hoped this magistrate-making business could be stopped. Though those nominated might be over forty-five, they were seeking safe places in case the conscript age should be raised to fifty. In Wake county now, there were already from one hundred and fifty to one hundred and eighty.

Mr. Jones recommended the nomination of the persons proposed by him, but by a vote of thirteen to fifteen, the Senate refused to concur.

Mr. Jones then moved to reconsider the vote by which the previous nominations of the day had been concurred in, which motion was carried by yeas 21, nays 13. After some desultory discussion and further nominations, the whole matter was postponed and the Senate proceeded to the election of chief clerk thereof, Mr. McKay receiving 29 votes, Mr. Huske 7, the former being therefore duly elected. The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The proceedings were opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Atkinson of the Presbyterian church.

Mr. Harrington presented a petition from certain citizens of Moore county, praying the appointment of certain persons not subject to conscription, as Magistrates in said county, which petition was on motion sent to the Senate.

Mr. Fowle presented a memorial of the Old Dominion Trading Co., of Richmond, Va., setting forth the loss by them of $25,000 of North Carolina State Bonds, and asking a renewal of the same. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Shepherd introduced a bill to provide an armed police for the town of Fayetteville, to preserve order, arrest spies, &c.

Mr. McCormick, a bill to exempt from Home Guard duty all persons discharged, by reason of physical disability from the Confederate military service. Referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. Brown of Mecklenburg, a bill to exempt from all military duty the employees, not to exceed twelve persons, of the N. C. Powder Works, and to extend facilities of operation to said Works.

Mr. McAden, a bill to provide, that wherein satisfaction of *a fi fa*, currency is refused and specie payment demanded, a tax of ninety *per cent* shall be levied.

Mr. Haines, a bill to provide camp and garrison schools for the instruction of the Junior Reserves.

A bill to amend 101st Chap. Revised Code, tabled last session, was, on motion of Mr. McGehee, taken up and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

An engrossed resolution, committing to T. F. Phillips, Esq., certain investigations into the State blockade operations, was taken up and put upon its several readings and passed; as also the bill (to provide an armed police for the town of Fayetteville) introduced this day by Mr. Shepherd.

The House then adjourned.

SENATE.

FRIDAY, January 20th, 1865.

Mr. Wiggins introduced a bill to allow fifteen Magistrates to transact county business in Halifax county, which, under a suspension of the rules, passed its several readings.

Mr. Ellis presented resolutions to prevent the sale of property under execution, where specie payment is demanded, and to authorize the making of certain contracts by soldiers' wives.

The business on the calander was then proceeded to

A substitute for the resolutions in favour of abolishing provost guards was adopted.

Resolutions (introduced last session by Mr. Odom) protesting against the policy of emancipation for public service, with a substitute therefor, being on their second reading, Mr. Dick moved their further consideration be made the special order for Monday next, at 12 m. So ordered.

Resolutions (introduced last session in the Commons by Mr. Phillips) relative to impressments by the Confederate government, being before the Senate, Mr. Wright, after stating he did not deem the second and third resolutions germain, moved they be stricken out.

Mr. Lassiter spoke of the offensive and insulting manner in which impressment had been very recently carried on in Granville county—a manner insulting not only to the citizens of the county but even to ladies, and declared that, if some relief be not extended the people, a degree of insubordination would arise that might lead to bloodshed. In illustration of these remarks, Mr. L. went on to say that when the order was issued in Granville for the citizens to surrender their stock, the excitement was such that it needed but a spark to arouse such a flame as would have swept the officers from the county. In such a state of things it was time to speak out and let the government know that while willing to perform all their duty, the people must be protected from offensive and insulting abuses of the law.

Mr. Wright said no one was more opposed to or would go further to put down any improper action by a government towards its people, but he had objected to the second and third resolutions as not being germain to the object of the resolutions, which, as he took it, was to call the attention of Congress to the improper manner in which the impressment laws were executed in hopes of procuring relief. By the third resolution the whole course of the government was arraigned, and if this and the preceding one were stricken out, he believed the interests of his constituents would be subserved by the passage of the others. On his return to Cumberland last session, he had found much excitement prevailing on this subject of impressment, no little of which arose from the fact that the people had not sufficiently understood the laws of Congress, but as new orders had lately been issued fair prices, were now received in place of the one-third formerly allowed.

Mr. Odom said he did rise to defend the government, but he believed the impressment laws were very good—could'nt be better.—He favored, too, the striking out of the second and third resolutions, and would propose certain additional relations he had prepared on the subject (reading some to provide that any illegality in making impressment should be punished by fine and imprisonment, and that just compensation should be taken to mean market price, local valuation, etc.)

On motion of Mr. Arendell, the farther consideration was postponed till Tuesday next the 24th, at 12 M.

The resignation of Neil McKay, Esq., Engrossing Clerk, having been received from the House, the Senate concurring in the proposition of that body to proceed to an election to fill the vacancy, proceeded to vote, but no result on two ballots—Mr. Huske, of the last, receiving 56 votes, Mr. Hill 46, and Mr. Davis 32.

A resolution requesting the State appraising Commissioner, in case of appeal, to allow market value for articles impressed, was then passed, under a suspension of the rules, and during the consideration of a communication from the Comptroller, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The SPEAKER laid before the the House the resignation of Neil McKay, Esq., as the Principal Engrossing Clerk of the General Assembly, which, on motion, was sent to the Senate, with a proposition to go in to an election to fill the vacancy; and the names of the candidates, Messrs. Hill, Huske, and Pfohl.

An engrossed bill from the Senate, to facilitate the erection of bridges in the counties of Alamance and Granville was received, and under a suspension of the rules, passed.

Messrs. Alford and Amis were granted leave of absence until Monday next.

A message having been received from the Senate asking the concurrence of the House in a nomination for Justice of the Peace.

Mr. Cobb moved the message be laid on the table. Not agreed to—yeas 31, nays 35.

A message having been received from the Senate accepting Mr. McKay's resignation and concurring in the House proposition to go into an election to supply the vacancy, the House proceeded to vote. Mr. Huske receiving, on joint ballot, 54 votes, Mr. Hill 44, Mr. Pfohl 17, and Mr. Davis 18. No election.

Mr. Haines introduced a preamble and set of Resolutions on the subject of a general convention of the Confederate States, as follows:

"Whereas, the present system of legislation by the Congress of the Confederate States, by which the most oppressive and unconstitutional laws have been passed from time to time, by the votes of irresponsible representatives from Missouri, Kentucky, and other States, some of whom have never seceded from the government of the United States, but have at this time their full quota of men in the armies of our enemies, and who therefore have no constituents upon whom the laws passed by them can operate, and some of whom dare not even show themselves in the States which they profess to represent, is an outrage to which no free people ought to submit, and

"Whereas, article V., of the Constitution of the Confederate States provides that "upon the demands of any three States, legally assembled in their several Conventions, the Congress shall summon a Convention of all the Confederate States, to take into consideration such amendments to the Constitution as the said States shall concur in suggesting at the time when the said demand is made; and should any of the proposed amendments to the Constitution be agreed on by the said Convention—voting by States—and the same be ratified by Legislatures of two-thirds of the several States, or by Conventions in two-thirds thereof—as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the general convention—they shall thenceforward form a part of this Constitution. But no State shall, without its consent, be deprived of its equal representation in the Senate."—Therefore

"*Resolved*, That the joint select committee on Confederate Relations be instructed to frame and bring in a bill forthwith, calling a Convention of the people of this State—or submitting the question to them, so as to enable them to assemble in Convention, should a majority of them desire to do so—for the purpose of so amending the Constitution as to provide that hereafter the Representatives of any State or States, whose territory is in the hands of the enemy so that the Confederate laws cannot be enforced therein, shall not, during the continuance of such occupation by the enemy, be permitted to vote upon any question of legislation, but shall have only such rights as are allowed to the delegates the Territories of the Confederate States, and of considering such other amendments as the said three States shall concur in suggesting.

Resolved, further, That State sovereignty being the principle on which North Carolina and the other States withdrew from the Federal Union, the States comprising the Southern Confederacy are Sovereigns and the Confederate government is only their agent, and subject to their control, and that the States in their Sovereign capacity, in general Convention assembled, have a right to negotiate a peace with the government of the United States, without consultation with the President of the Confederate States, but subject to the several States in their separate State Conventions."

In support of these resolutions, Mr. Haines argued at length, and at the conclusion of his remarks (a synopsis of which is unavoidably crowded out,) Mr. Phillips moved the preamble and resolutions be printed; but Mr. Person moving they be laid on the table, the House so ordered, by yeas 58, nays 39, the vote being as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Alston, Amis, Austin, Baxter, Benbury, Bond of Gates, Boyd, Brown of Madison, Brown of Mecklenburg, Bryan, Cahe, Cobb, Costner, Crawford of Rowan, Crawford of Wayne, Cunningham, Dargan, Davis of Halifax, Davis of Franklin, Duke, Erwin, Faison, Faucette, Gaskins, George, Gidney, Grier, Gudger, Harrington, Harris, Harrison, Hassell, Hawes, Joyner, Judkins, Lane, Latham, Lewis, Little, Love, McAden, McCormick, McLean, Outterbridge, Patton, Peace, Person, Pool, Polk, Powell, Ross, Shepherd, Shipp, Shober, Smith of Cabarrus, Smith of Duplin, Stancil and Wooten—58.

NAYS—Messrs. Allison, Asheworth, Banke, Best, Blair, Bond of Bertie, Caldwell, Calvert, Carson of Alexander, Carter, Clapp, Cowles, Craige, Flynt, Fowle, Grissom, Hadley, Hanes, Henry, Holton, Horton of Watauga, Horton of Wilkes, Isbell, Jordan, Lowe, McGehee, McMillan, Murrill, Patterson, Phillips, Rogers, Russell, Sharpe, Simmons, Smith of Johnston, Stipe, Waugh, Wheeler and Young—39.

A second vote, with no result, having been taken for Principal Engrossing Clerk, Mr. Smith of Johnston, introduced "a bill to call a Convention of the people," which passed its first reading and was referred to the Judiciary Committee. [This bill which proceeds to state that "the present condition of the country demands that the sovereign people of this State should assemble in Convention to effect; if possible an honorable termination of the present war," is in form essentially the same as the Convention bill of 1860, and provides that an election shall be held on the 13th of February, 1865, the vote to be "Convention" or "No Convention;" that if a majority of votes cast be for a Convention, such Convention be held in the city of Raleigh on the 2d Monday in March and consist of one hundred and twenty delegates.]

After the transaction of some other business of lesser importance, the House adjourned.

SENATE.

SATURDAY, Jan. 21st, 1865.

This being the day of the week appropriated to the consideration of the business on the private calendar, the Senate proceeded to act thereon.

Bills to incorporate the Cumberland Monumental Association; the Deep River Woollen Co., and Mt. Harman Lodge, to amend an act incorporating the Cape Fear Importing and Exporting Co., to construct a turnpike road from Salisbury west to the Georgia line, to authorize the Chief Clerk of the Treasury to act in certain cases as a commissioner of affidavits, to regulate the taking of depositions in certain cases, and resolutions authorizing the public Treasurer to receive partial payment of taxes due from counties within the enemy's lines, passed, severally, their second reading.

Bills to incorporate the N C Volunteer Navy Co., to amend the act authorizing the Governor to employ slaves on fortifications, etc., to regulate the appointment of flour inspectors in the town of Fayetteville, and to exempt certain State employees passed, severally, their third reading, as also, under a suspension of the rules, a bill to incoporate the Cumberland Monumental Association, and a resolution in favor of N. Whitford.

On motion of Mr. Ward, and the House concurring, the Senate proceeded to vote for Engrossing Clerk but with no resulting election; Mr. Davis receiving 45 votes, Mr. Huse 42, Mr. Hill 41, and Mr. Pfohl 6.

Mr. Hall introduced a resolution authorizing the Governor to send the citizens of Wilmington, out of the public supplies, 10 000 pounds of bacon, 1000 bushels of corn, and 800 sacks of flour, and to receive compensation therefor. In support of this resolution, Mr. Hall explained that the people of Wilmington were willing to pay for provisions, even in coin, but the presence of an army there, and the unsettled state of affairs deterred producers from sending their provisions in.

Mr. Lassiter opposed the resolution, stating he did so in justice to his own people who needed provisions as badly as the people of Wilmington.

Mr. Dick also opposed the resolution on similar grounds, declaring that fully five hundred people in Guilford were now in such a condition as not to know what it was to have their appetites satisfied, nor could the Commissioners of that county procure ten bushels of corn.

Mr. Hall said his excellency, the Governor, had just loaned 40,000 pounds of bacon to General Hoke, and he could not see why the loan asked for should not be made to the people of Wilmington.

Mr. Adams said the Commissioners from his county had recently sought to get bacon of the State and were told there was none.—He did not understand why, if this were so, bacon could be loaned to General Hoke.

Mr. Hall explained that this 40,000 pounds of bacon might have been loaned from the military supply, and after some further discussion and the rejection of amendments proposing to insert Guilford and Wake counties, and a motion to lay the matter on the table, the resolution was, on motion of Mr. Pool, amended so as to read "military supplies" and so passed its second and third readings.

The Senate then adjourned Monday at 10 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Pending the approval of the journal, Mr. McGehee asked leave to change his vote on the question of laying on the table (Mr. Hanes) resolutions to call a General Convention, from the negative to the affirmative, stating he had not reflected that to call a General Convention, it was necessary to call State Conventions, among them one of the State of North Carolina, to which he was opposed.

Mr. Fowle said he would not object, though, thinking the gentleman's vote as it now stood was in accordance with his views. For himself he had taken ground against a State Convention last summer and shewn the dangers of separate State action, but these resolutions provided for a General Convention in which, as said the gentleman from Caswell, (Mr. McGehee) much good might, and little evil could be, done.

Mr. Caldwell believed the resolutions right and proper, but thought they had not been fully understood. Proceeding to discuss them, he was called to order by Mr. Baxter, the chair sustaining the technical point raised.—Leave was then granted Mr. McGehee to change his vote, and Messrs Strong, Perkins and Ashesworth, absent when the vote was taken, were allowed to record theirs.

The bill to provide means for supplying the State Treasury being before the House, Mr. Fowle moved to lay it on the table. So ordered, yeas 48, nays 47.

At half after eleven the special order—the nomination of persons for appointments—being taken up,

Mr. Pool offered a resolution calling upon the Secretary of State to prepare and present to the House a tabular statement of the number of justices of the peace in the State and certain information relative thereto, and moved the further consideration of the special order be postponed till the 28th, Saturday next.

Mr. Waugh moved to amend by laying it on the table. Not agreed to—yeas 36, nays 51. The original resolution was then adopted by yeas 56, nays 29.

An election for engrossing clerk was then gone into but with no result, neither candidate receiving a majority of the votes cast.

Mr. McAden offered a resolution that a message be sent the Senate proposing a joint order of adjournment on Saturday next, the 28th, over to the third Monday in November next.

Mr. Waugh moved to lay the resolution on the table. Not agreed to—yeas 14, nays 64.

Mr. Fowle moved to amend by proposing a message be sent to the Senate asking its concurrence in the appointment of a joint special committee to take the whole subject into consideration, which amendment prevailed and the House adjourned.

SENATE.

MONDAY, Jan. 23.

The Senate was opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Richard Mason, Jr., of the Episcopal Church.

Bills to authorize the Public Treasurer to receive partial payments of taxes due from counties within the enemy's lines, concerning the mode of taking depositions in certain cases, to amend an act to provide for a turnpike road from Salisbury, west to the Georgia line, to incorporate the Mt. Herman Lodge, A. Y. M., to amend the act incorporating the Cape Fear Importing and Exporting Company, and to incorporate the Deep River Woollen Mills, passed severally their third readings.

Mr. Wiggins moved a message be sent the House, proposing to go forthwith into an election for Engrossing Clerk. Not agreed to.

The hour of twelve having arrived the special order therefor—resolutions protesting against the policy of emancipation for public services, with a substitute for the same—was taken up, and

Mr. Dick proceeded to address the Senate thereon, arguing against the policy of using slaves in the army, declaring they were not needed as cooks, would be worse than useless as teamsters, and, by their absence from the corn-field, would deprive us of provisions enough to feed an army of an hundred thousand men for twelve months. Nor did he favor emancipation to please England or France. To allow the government to interfere in any way with slavery in the States would be to adopt the Lincoln abolition doctrine and be to confess before the world the South was not justified in secession. In concluding he would say that as Cato always closed his harangues by crying *Delenda est Carthago*. So he would bring his remarks to a close by declaring that we must have peace.

Mr. Odom offered an amendment to the resolutions, and proceeded to speak thereon, declaring that when the proposition to arm slaves was first brought forward he had thought public opinion would at once have frowned it down. North Carolina ought to protest against it, as unwise, inexpedient, wild, and wrong, and as one that if done would leave the country to starve. Mr. O. then proceeded to discuss the resolutions *seriatim*, arguing in favor of their adoption, declaring that the government could no more pay for 100 000 slaves to go in the army than Satan could have given the kingdom and wealth of the world to the Lord, and begging Senators not to abolitionize themselves, but to remain true to slavery—the normal condition of the negro—and to go down—if must be—with all lost cause.

Pending further consideration of the resolutions the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Pritchard, of the Baptist church.

Mr. Gudger offered a petition from citizens of the county of Madison, praying a change in the boundary lines of said county.

THE CASE OF DR. HENRY P. RITTER.

Mr. Benbury presented a statement of Dr. Henry P. Ritter, a citizen of Chowan county, and a preamble and resolutions based thereon. [This statement sets forth that Dr. Ritter being on the 5th of December, 1864, in Weldon, and going to procure passports to the office of the Provost Marshal, was by that officer, immediately arrested, turned over to Colonel Guilliard, and, after being detained by him two days in the guard house, sent to Richmond under guard. Arriving there, he was immured in Castle Thunder and treated with great harshness, being refused permission to purchase wholesome and sufficient food, etc. On the 12th he was declared by an examining commission, arrested on insufficient grounds, but in spite of this declaration, re-committed to jail till the evening of the 14th. On arriving at Weldon, after his release, he found one of his servants, arrested with him, in a dying condition, from exposure and neglect, and discovered that the locks on his baggage had been forced and his trunks rifled. The only cause assigned for his arrest was an anonymous letter, signed "Captain in the Confederate service, Lee's army," charging H. P. Ritter with being a Yankee spy, and declaring that he had received $10,000 to go to Salisbury and inspect the fortifications there, and note what force was on the roads. A postscript to the letter says, "My hand is disguised, so if my letter should be lost no one can find out who rote it," and is signed "Captain in Hoke's division on furlough."]

The resolutions proceed to say that, in the opinion of the General Assembly, the "harsh and cruel treatment" of Dr. Ritter can be viewed only as a base and inhuman use of power to oppress and torture," and call upon his Excellency, the Governor, to institute immediate and searching enquiry into all the circumstances of the case, and in case wrong appears to have been done as stated to "demand of the Confederate government the immediate trial and arrest" of the officers voluntarily concerned therein.

Mr. Cobb moved to amend by inserting "request" for "demand" in the resolutions.

Mr. Caldwell preferred the word "demand." It was the duty of the Legislature of North Carolina to protect all its citizens in life, liberty, property, and honor, and not to suffer even the feeblest in the State to endure contempt and wrong. Such outrages as this were undermining the public confidence and would lead, if not checked, to wide spread blood shed and ruin. And as to the fellow who wrote the anonymous letter, he would ask what sort of a patriot an officer could be who would not if knowing such danger not expose it in person. "Demand" was the word to employ, to show that we were not poor cringing creatures to applaud those who lorded it over us, or to submit to every outrage.

The amendment was then rejected, and after some desultory discussion the resolutions passed unanimously.

A message having been received from the Senate transmitting the resolution to send supplies to Wilmington and asking actions thereon, the resolution was, after a scattering discussion and the adoption of certain amendments, not changing the nature of the resolution, passed.

Mr. Grissom introduced a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to enquire into the legality of an order prohibiting producers from selling their produce to any other parties than government impressing agents, which order had been served on persons in Granville county.

Mr. Waugh introduced a resolution inquiring what steps have been or are to be taken to collect the debt due from the Confederate States to the State of North Carolina. Agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate transmitting certain bills which passed their first reading, and the House, shortly thereafter adjourned.

The following dialogue occurred yesterday near our office, between a wag and a wealthy old city croaker:

Wag—Did you hear the news?

Croaker—(Excited)—No! What is it?

Wag—The Muscogee Road is cut.

Croaker—(Very nervously)—Is it possible! Kilpatrick's force?

Wag—No, General Washup's force,

Croaker—General Wash-up! Is he from Sherman's army,

Wag—No: he descended from Heaven last night in a rain storm.

Exit Croaker, with a scowl. Wag and companions repair with a laugh to Porter's Restaurant on Cherry street for reinforcements—*Confederacy*.

We would call the attention of our cotemporaries to the fact that Fort Fisher never was *surrendered*—but was carried at the point of the bayonet by overwhelming numbers, after all the guns on the land face had been dismounted by the terrific fire from the fleet.

The enemy's loss, in Sunday's fight, is estimated to be at least one thousand in killed and wounded. The Fort was charged three times on Sunday afternoon and night, before it was captured.—*Wil. Journal*.

The friends of the gallant Major Reilly, need have no fears of his being harshly treated by the enemy, because of his having been in the U. S. service, as we have been shown the original acceptance of his resignation, dated Washington, May 3rd, 1861.

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1865.

In preference to any remarks of our own, in reference to the Legislature now convening, we give the following from the Fayetteville *Observer* of yesterday:

The Legislature.

This body will meet again to-morrow. We have very frequently heard the wish expressed, in which we could not help concurring, that no necessity existed for this meeting, or any future one of a body so constituted.—This wish is not altogether on account of the enormous expense which it entails upon the already deeply indebted State, though that is a serious item, for it amounts to about $10,000 a day, so that a session of twenty-five days, the shortest that can be hoped for will add a quarter of a million to the State debt; and should it extend to fifty days, as we fear, then half a million will have been added to that debt, and of course to the burdens on the people, now or hereafter. We are not in the habit of complaining of a liberal compensation to public officers—quite the reverse. But the necessity of paying members fifty dollars a day to enable them to meet their expenses in Raleigh, should at least induce a short session, and prevent any waste of time upon aught but matters of practical and necessary legislation.

But it is mainly because of the agitation of such abstract questions as were presented by mischievous resolutions, that any further meeting of such a body as the present Legislature is deprecated. That such resolutions as are now pending divide and dispirit our own people, we all see and know. That they encourage the enemy is plainly shown by the extracts made from their newspapers. We repeat what we have heretofore said, that we do not charge these gentlemen or their followers with an intention to damage our cause and encourage the enemy; but such is unquestionably the *effect* of their resolutions and speaches and votes. And it is because of a fear that this evil effect will be again produced and increased, that their re-assembling is deprecated.

But it is possible that the recent sojourn of the members with their constituents may have served to remind some of them of the pledges and principles upon which they were elected, and which they disregarded during their late session. We refer not of course to the small number who were openly opposed to Gov. Vance and his well known policy of supporting with all heart the cause of his country. But these would have been powerless if they had not had the countenance and co-operation of more than their own number from among those who made the loudest professions of being Vance men, and who were only elected because their constituents relied upon these professions. Gov. Vance's policy was well known before the election, and it is still the same. He has given no encouragement to the enemy. He has not faltered in support of his country's cause. He has offered no propositions looking to a base submission to the hated enemy, or to an equally base betrayal of our sister States. Yet some forty or fifty of these Vance men, *par excellence*, show their devotion to *his* principles by supporting and voting for resolutions on the most vital of all subjects which *he* would spurn with indignation and contempt. We have some hope that such members have found at home a more patriotic feeling than that which surrounded them and to which they gave way during their recent session. It will be well for them and for their country, and only ill to its enemies, if this hope should prove to be well founded. For themselves, we need only remind them of the opprobrium which followed all their lives, and still rests upon the memory of those who in the revolution of 1776 gave aid and encouragement to the enemy. Let them depend upon it, that in this as in other things, history will repeat itself. After the establishment of the independence of the Confederacy, their resolutions, and speeches, and votes will be arrayed against them during their lives, and will taint their memory and the character of their descendants long after they sink to the grave.

Every energy of every true Southern man should be devoted to the obtainment of our independence. There is dishonor and ruin in any other result. It is idle for any man to expect forbearance or mercy from such an implacable and inhuman foe. The laws of confiscation are already on their statute books. The denunciation of hanging for every public officer above the rank of Colonel, (in which possibly may be included members of Legislatures,) has already been uttered in Lincoln's Proclamations. The clamor in the North for our lands and other property has been and is open and furious. They are set apart as a reward for the motly armies of all nations and colors which is openly fighting for them, and which the North would be obliged to yield for fear these armies would *take* at the North what should be refused to them at the South. Will any one pretend in the face of these records that life and property will be respected? Let subjugation be permitted and the yankees would but laugh in the face of any one who was so green as to entertain the idea! They would point to the record, and tell him that he submitted with full knowledge and warning of the consequences.

On the other hand, what a glorious result will follow union and determination! The Confederacy free—free by the blessing of God and the strong arms of our valiant soldiers and the wisdom of our Statesmen—free from the rule of the fanatics who for forty years past had broken their plighted faith—free from all connection with the miscreants who have shed so much noble Southern blood, stolen so much Southern property, wantonly destroyed so much more that they could not steal, even to the farming implements with which the people could make their bread, driven so many helpless women and children out of their burning homes, and insulted and outraged many of the unprotected wives and sisters of Southern men. To be free from all connection with, and especially from the rule of, such a people, is a blessing worth incalculable sacrifices. Yet there are some who will not struggle for the blessing after having endured the sacrifices! If there was a reason for resistance in May 1861, there is now ten thousand fold more reason. *That* was the time, if any, for cowards and cravens, to shrink back. *This* is the time for brave men to stand up manfully, doing their own duty and trusting in God for the event.—*Fay. Observer.*

State Officers.

We are happy to see, from the special Report made by Major Mallett of the Conscript Bureau that the exemptions of State officers, instead of reaching fourteen thousand, as heretofore reported by him, only amounts to five thousand and one hundred. Major Mallett explains the manner in which the previous error was committed.

We commend the following article from a Northern journal to the considerate perusal of Southern readers who are disposed to be gloomy and despondent of the Confederate cause. If men in the North can take *such* a view of the condition of affairs, surely the people of the South should feel not only hopeful, but confident of final success. For ourselves, we were never more sanguine of the final result. That the South will succeed in her struggle, we have an abiding faith. That it will be through sufferings and trials that the people of North Carolina have not yet endured, we firmly believe. But the the successful end will surely come.

Savannah "Ours."

The capture of Savannah is a brilliant military achievement, but it is worthless as an agency of reconstruction. It proves that Sherman is a skillful general; but no military genius is capable of rejoining the broken links of sectional concord and fraternity. The political welfare of our country depends upon statesmanship and patriotism, not upon ability and heroism in the field. Those that purpose the extermination of the Southern people may congratulate themselves as, step by step, the sword pursues its mission of destruction, but the patriot has only cause to mourn at the tidings of the fall of Southern strongholds, the occupation of Southern cities, and the rout of Southern armies. If, by striking down so many men upon the field of battle, or by holding so many square miles of territory under the stern rule of the bayonet, we could bend the stubborn spirit of resistance, or restore the old feeling of brotherhood that created the Republic, there would be some reason to rejoice at the progress of the Federal arms. But every victory plants a new germ of bitterness and hatred, and in proportion as the Federal armies advance the spirit of reconciliation recedes, leaving the fruits of discord and contention to mature in the path of conquest and desolation.

Savannah has fallen, and the popular expectation eagerly awaits the intelligence that Wilmington has succumbed. What then? What if, besides, the pride of Charleston should be humbled? What if Mobile should be captured and Richmond should yield to the veteran hosts of Grant? The possession of brick and mortar, and deserted streets does not give the conqueror control over the hearts of living men. Napoleon issued his bulletins from almost every capital in Europe, but from all the vast area of his conquest he was unable, in the end, to claim as much ground as would suffice him for a grave.

The capture of the ports on the Southern coast would cost the North not only the price of capture, but the price of occupation; and the Southern armies would be recruited in proportion, by the release of thousands of their soldiers from garrison duty. The old men of the sea would be shifted from Confederate to Federal shoulders, and the armies of the North, cronped at intervals along the coast from Norfolk to New Orleans, would waste their strength in watching stone walls and quiet harbors, while their enemies would be concentrating for active operations in the interior. It is true that the channel of supplies from foreign markets would be blocked; but a people that are fighting for independence need but the fruits of their native soil for sustenance and the fabricks of their own hands for clothing.

Marion's frugal repast and his rude shelter in the Carolina swamp, did not weaken his muscles or subdue his spirit. The wild Caucasians, in their mountain fastnesses, hemmed in on every side, were able to baffle the vast armies of Russia for nearly half a century. The only question is, whether the Southern people have as much fortitude and love of liberty as those half civilized mountaineers.—The question is answered when we call to mind that they are Americans, the noble descendants of our revolutionary fathers and the legatees of freedom. To such men adversity is strength. They are like the mariners, who sleep in the sunshine, but when the storm rages and danger assails them on every side, they rally to the shrill sound of the boatswain's whistle, and spring, all life and zeal and fearlessness, to their alloted duties. After every disaster to the Confederate arms, a cry, not of terror or faint-heartedness, but of rage and proud defiance, has gone forth from the South, more thrilling and expressive of their indomitable will than any shout of victory. So will it be to the end, and only when every Southern voice is hushed in death will that cry be stilled. Even then, no where will be heard the accents of submission, but the silence of the wilderness will reign amid the graves of a slaughtered people and the ruins of their homes.

The pæans of victory that ascend from the North are the death knells of their own liberties. Republicanism cannot long live in the atmosphere of civil strife, and every Federal success serves but to prolong the war. For four years the land has been convulsed with the exhausting throes of intersectional contention, and already our political structure is so changed that its builders would not recognize its defaced and shattered form.—Our fathers gave us a Republic for an inheritance, and four years of civil war have transformed it into a military despotism. If our own people, blinded by the dust and smoke of battle, and intoxicated by the blood that reeks from their polluted soil, cannot realize that they are ruled by the bayonets that obey the one man power, let them ask of Europe, that surveys the infernal scene with mingled feelings of pity, scorn and wonder, what is our condition. Let the war continue four years longer, and the principle of self-government will be buried in the hearts of enthralled patriots, to be extinct for ever, or to await resurrection at the hands of future generations. The triumph of the Federal arms over the sovereign States of the South may make us a great power in the family of nations, may blazon our escutcheon with military laurels and raise us to the giddy elevation that Rome attained by conquest ere she tottered in the blaze of glory and fell into the abyss; but farewell, then, the Republic. The sword and the purse will govern, and the voices of the people will have no loftier theme than the adulation of their rulers. The fall of Savannah is a splendid victory; but it is one blow upon the anvail where the chains of the North are being forged.—*N. Y. News.*

North Carolinians, true to the last, as the following extract of a letter from an officer of the Confederate army will show, who was for some time a prisoner at Johnson's Island.—After giving an account of the sufferings of the prisoners there, he says:

"And I will here state that I never saw more determined spirits than the North Carolinians on Johnsen's Island, they alone being able to say, "Not a man from my State has taken the oath in this prison." The treatment of those who take the oath is just the thing. Old Abe has issued an order that all the C. S. officers who take the oath were to be kept in prison until after the exchange of *all* prisoners. He does this on account of so many taking the oath and returning to our armies."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

SENATE.

TUESDAY, January 17, 1865.

The Senate was called to order twenty minutes after twelve and the roll called by Mr. Badger, reading Clerk. The following Senators answered to their names: Messrs: Arendell, Aycock, Bagley, Dick, Ellis, Harris, Kirby, Odom, Pool, Ward, Warren, Whitford, Winstead, and Wright, and there being no quorum, the Senate, on motion of Mr. Arendell, adjourned till to-morrow at twelve o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House was called to order a little after twelve, Speaker Donnell in the Chair. On the roll being called it appeared that there was no quorum of the House, the following gentlemen alone answering to their names: Messrs. Alford, Ashworth, Best, Brown of Mecklenburg, Caldwell, Clapp, Dargan, Faucette, Flynt, Gaskins, George, Grissom, Haues, Harrison, Holton, Jordan, Lane, Love, McCormick, McGehee, Murphy, Person, Russell, Shepherd, Simmons, Smith of Duplin, Smith and of Johnston—and on motion of Mr. McCormick, the House adjourned till to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, January 18th, 1865.

At 12 M, the Senate was called to order, Speaker Mebane in the chair, and a quorum appearing, proceeded to business; Mr. Speaker and Messrs. Berry, Bogle, Courts, Horton, Jones, Lassister, Long, McCorckle, McEachern, Pitchford, Snead, Stranghan, and Taylor answering to their names, in addition to those mentioned as being present yesterday.

The Speaker presented a communication from C. R. Thomas, Esq., resigning the position of Chief Clerk of the Senate.

Mr. Long nominated Neil McKay, Esq. for Chief Clerk in Mr. Thomas' place. Mr. Wright nominated W. A. Huske, Esq., and Mr. Lassister nominated Frank I. Wilson, Esq.

On motion of Mr. Ellis, the election was postponed till to-morrow at 12 M.

Mr. Berry introduced a bill to facilitate the erection of bridges in the county of Alamance; which was, on motion of Mr. Lassister, amended so as to include the county of Granville, and as thus amended, passed its various readings under a suspension of the rules.

A message was then sent the House, informing that body that the Senate had organized, and proposing a joint committee to wait upon His Excellency the Governor, and receive any communication he might have to make. None being forthcoming, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House was called to order at twelve o'clock by Speaker Donnell, and on the roll being called, it appeared that there were present, in addition to those mentioned yesterday, Messrs. Allison, Alston, Amis, Banks, Baxter, Blair, Bond of Gates, Boyd, Carson of Alexander, Costner, Craige, Crawford of Rowan, Crawford of Wayne, Cunningham, Davis of Halifax, Davis of Franklin, Duke, Fowle, Gidney, Grier, Harrington, Harris, Horton of Wilkes, Judkins, Lewis, McAden, Murrill, Patterson, Phillips, Polk, Powell, Riddick, Rogers, Shipp, Smith of Cabarrus, Stancell, Stipe, Strong, Waugh, Wheeler and Wooten.

On motion of Mr. Shepherd, a message was sent the Senate, informing that body that the House had organized and was ready to proceed to the dispatch of the public business.

THE SPEAKER laid before the House certain depositions in the contested election case of Sam'l J. Calvert and Wm. J. Rogers, of the county of Northampton.

Mr. Waugh introduced a resolution as to the expediency of suspending executions where specie payment is demanded.

Mr. Allison introduced a resolution, calling on the committee on the Insane Asylum to report as to the general condition, management, and expenses of said institution.

A message was received from the Senate, stating the organization of that body and its readiness to proceed to business.

Mr. McGehee moved a message be sent the Senate, proposing a joint select committe to wait upon his Excellency, the Governor, inform him of the organization of the General Assembly and receive such communication as he might have to make; to which proposition the Senate acceded, and the committee reported that his Excellency had no communication at this time to make.

The House then adjourned, on motion of Mr. Hanes, till to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

A gentleman and good citizen, living within fifty miles of this city, was called on lately by a deputation of his servants. The Spokesman, a very intelligent servant, stated briefly the views of his fellow-servants in substance as follows:

"We know where and who our friends are. If the Yankees come to trouble us, Massa, we take to the woods, and you must not be afraid for us. We will do all we can and find you out."

These good servants—like all servants who have found good masters—knew and acknowledged their interests and best welfare, and they went to their master thus after hearing stirring rumors that had been industriously propagated by spies, traitors, tories and gold sellers among us that Wilmington had been taken; that the Yankees were shelling or investing Branchville, and that Sherman was marching without hindrance or opposition on Charleston.

While these good servants were thus shewing their preference and loyalty and devotion to truth and duty, a few creatures wearing petticoats and calling themselves wisest of men who are living on Confederate rations, were expressing openly and insolently their hopes and wishes for Sherman.

The example of other cities should warn us that a very few such creatures among us and with us may do us more injury than a regiment of enemies. It is time to know and mark all who are with us and not for us.—*Charleston Courier.*

From the State Journal.

Casualties at Fort Fisher.

List of casualties in Company D, 40th Regiment, N. C. Troops, Capt. James S. Lane commanding, up to Saturday night, 14th instant.

Killed—Private M. P. Caton.

Wounded—Capt. Jas. S. Lane, not seriously; Sergt. W. W. Briggs, slightly; Jas. W. Dickson, arm broken; W. L. Edwards, slight in shoulder; Franklin Dunn, slight in arm; Alfred Baseden, slight; Thos. Bradley, severely in leg and jaw bone broken.

The following were left on detail at Fort Holmes—Lieut. J. J. Brabble, Wm. Daniel, J. L. Griffin, Jas. H. French, E. S. Robinson, Thos. R. Spence and W. R. Bridgers.

Sick—Kenneth Gaithef, Lewis Hudson, Alfred Warner and N. B. Rowe. These were also left at Fort Holmes.

The balance of the company, with Capt. Lane, were at Fort Fisher.

The War News.

The lines are quiet—the men repairing damages done by the late rains—no fight expected, though several transports, laden both with black and white troops, but mostly black, have been lately seen ascending the river.

BLAIR'S MISSION.

There is no doubt of the fact that Francis P. Blair is here—and there is the same diversity about his project here as at Washington. We have reason to think—to *know* indeed—that this old man is here on his own authority and of his own motion—that he has no authentication from the Yankee Government, either written or verbal; that he has no message to deliver, or cards to show—only he asked to see the cards in our hands. One story goes that he expresses the opinion that the Southern States might negotiate their submission on the basis of "Prospective emancipation."—The received version of his interview with President Davis, is, that he, Blair, wrote Davis a little letter enquiring whether he would receive a social visit from an *old friend*—that Davis responded—and that the interview took place, at the end of which Davis delivered to Blair a letter to Lincoln, in which he declared his willingness either to receive Commissioners from the United States to treat of peace, or to send them duly credited, if they would be received at Washington.

Montgomery. Blair did not come farther than City Point.

WILMINGTON.

The Yankee gunboats, upwards of fifty in number, are again visible off Wilmington, and were yesterday said to be engaged in a vigorous shelling of the woods near Fort Fisher.—There is a rumor that an attack has been commenced against the Fort itself—but the War Department had last night received no intelligence of it. The Yankees will not take Fort Fisher.

We learn that the Piedmont connection will be in running order to-day or to-morrow. From what we hear there are certain obvious facilities of transportation which the Government may command by the alteration of the gage of this road, and which it should take advantage of at the earliest moment. In our great line of Southern communications, extending say from Richmond to Augusta, the road is of the same gage, excepting the Piedmont link, which extends forty-eight miles.—It is only necessary to conform the gage of this forty-eight miles of railroad to that of both its connections, by moving one of its rails three inches and a half—a work which a gang of negro laborers might do in a week—to have a single gage from Richmond to Atlanta, over which trains might pass without once breaking their freight. As it is, we hear there is great occasion for delay in there shipment of freight; and we are informed that it is not an unfrequent occurrence for trains to be detained at Greensboro' for two days at a time, waiting to shift their freight. There is no occasion for these stages of transportation which choke up the road, and no reason that we can discover but the neglect of obvious facilities why the Government should not run through trains from points as far as Georgia to the depot in Richmond.—*Richmond Examiner, 14th.*

HOW NEW YEAR'S DAY WAS ONCE CELEBRATED IN THE LIBBY.—The Northern papers publish an extract from a forthcoming account, by Captain Izabad, of life in the Libby Prison. He gives an account of a theatrical entertainment extemporized in the "Libby" on New Year's eve. Describing it he says:

The programme consisted of three parts—Part 1, purely musical, the performers Captains Sholl, Kendall and Mass and Lieutenants Jones and Lombard. Part 2, likewise musical, commenced with a banjo solo, and closed with a clog dance. "The Rival Lovers," *ad intermezzo*, here followed; actors, Captain Mass and Lieutenant Randolph. Part 3, "Country woman in a Photographic Gallery," and a masquerade ball—the additional actors being Major Neiper, Captain McWilliams, and Lieutenants Welch, Bennett and Moran. "Admission free—children in arms are not admitted.'

As the call "lights out" was by special order in our favor delayed until midnight, we were enabled after the threatricals to make efforts at sundry other sports. Up we marched to the *bon ton*, the central room of the prison—where a purely musical entertainment was extemporized. Lieutenant Jones gave, amid a calm applause: "Do they think of me at home?" My Hungarian Major, perhaps the most sickly figure in the prison, guitar in hand, sang Shubert's serenade, while Lieutenant Randolph, United States Artillery, called forth much applause by a witty ditty of his own creation. In the midst of these melodious strains, creative at once of mirth and sadness, arrived the fatal twelve o'clock. The guard, with vigorous punctuality, and perhaps more than punctuality, now began to send us up the echo of the hated "lights out" The solitary tallow candle, threatening soon to expire in its own sweat, had to be extinguished; but not so with the strain of music. There we stood crowded in the corner of the room, performing and listening to the grand *finale* in thick darkness.

AT THE OLD CAPITOL PRISON.—We have received from Benjamin M. Cromwell, Surg Provisional Army Confederate States, the following list of prisoners held at the Old Capitol, Washington, District of Columbia.—They are all well:

Colonel Randolph Harrison, Forty-sixth Virginia; Lieutenant-Colonel Peyton Wise, Forty-sixth Virginia; Major R R Hutchinson, A A G, Rodes' division; Major A R Venable, General Hampton's staff; Captain A P Love, Phillips' Legion; Capt J H Norwood, Forty-seventh North Carolina; Captain J R Roach, Forty-fourth North Carolina; Captain J W Goslen, Fifty-second North Carolina; Lieut W Y Thompson, Twelfth Georgia; Lieut J M Alexander, Fifth Texas; Lieutenant N. B Hilliard, Forty-fourth North Carolina; Lieut R W Stedman, Forty-fourth North Carolina; Lieutenant A S Webb, Adjutant Forty-fourth North Carolina; Lieutenant T M Carter, Forty-fourth North Carolina; Lieut Josiah Ryland, Thirty-fourth Virginia; Lieutenant A J Setze, Seventh Georgia cavalry; Lieut A D Cox, Forty-sixth Virginia; Lieutenant F H Rahm, Mosby's battalion; G W Clarke, Co. H, Fourth Virginia Cavalry.—*Examiner.*

HAPPINESS.—Now, let me tell you a secret—a secret worth knowing. This looking forward for enjoyment don't pay. From what I know of it, I would as soon chase butterflies for a living, or bottle up moonshine for cloudy nights. The only true way to be happy, is to take the drops of happiness as God gives them to us every day of our lives. The boy must learn to be happy while he is plodding over his lesson; the apprentice while he is making his fortune. If he fails to learn this art, he will be sure to miss his enjoyment when he gains what he sighs for.

TELEGRAPHIC

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION

From Wilmington.

RICHMOND, Jan. 16.—The following official telegram was received this morning:

HEADQUARTERS, Jan. 16.

Hon. J. A. Seddon: Gen. Bragg reports that the enemy bombarded Fort Fisher furiously all day yesterday, and at 4 p. m. their infantry advanced to assault, a heavy demonstration at the same hour being made against their rear by our troops. At half past six, p. m., Gen. Whiting reported their attacks had failed and the garrison was being strengthened with fresh troops. About ten p. m., the Fort was captured with most of its garrison. No further particulars at this time.

(Signed) R. E. LEE, Gen.

From the Valley.

The following was received last night:

HEADQUARTERS, Jan. 15.—Early reports that three hundred men surprised and captured the garrison at Beverly, Randolph co., on the 12th, killing and wounding a considerable number, taking five hundred and eighty prisoners; his loss slight.

(Signed) R. E. LEE.

Confederate Congress.

RICHMOND, Jan. 16.—In the Senate the House Currency Bill was reported back from the Committee of Finance with amendments.

The bill increasing the salary of the Vice President was passed, and then resolved into secret session. Mr. Orr rose to a personal explanation caused by an article from the Sentinel, which he asked to be read by the Clerk. The article referred to was based on a short communication which mentions that rumor said a resolution was before Congress, in secret session, to open negotiation through Commissioners with Lincoln for peace. The writer denounces this as treachery of the most infamous character, and says the people will not allow themselves to be sold by traitorous Congressmen after this fashion. The Sentinel says this report has excited surprise and indignation, and if any but a regularly authorized mode of communication with the enemy be resorted to, Congress will not escape the indignant reprehension of the people. Mr. Orr said this slanderous article was intended as a criticism upon the report he submitted from the Committee on Foreign Affairs. The movement proposed was not in the hands of timid, time-serving men, but was sustained by volumes of sentiment in the country and army, and our sense and duty should determine that some form of statesmanship shall be invoked in an honest effort to end this carnival of death, by negotiation.

Mr Lester moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to submit a preamble and resolutions, declaring statements embraced in the Sentinel so far as intended to apply to the House, merited the emphatic rebuke and unqualified denunciation of the House.

The House refused to suspend—yeas 32, nays 36.

Mr Smith of Ala, in part, said he considered this vote an endorsement of the Sentinel, and as long as he had any self-respect, it would prevent his taking any further part in the deliberations of the body.

Several members stated they did not regard this vote as an endorsement of the Sentinel, and assigned different reasons for their opinions.

The exemption bill was taken up and various propositions to amend the clause relative to the Press submitted. All amendments were finally laid upon the table.

The special committee on the case of Mr. Foote, made a report, declaring that he was absent without leave, and that the public good could not be served by compelling his attendance. Declaring also that it was expedient for the military authorities to discharge him from custody. A substitute adopted, declaring that he had no privilege as a member of the House, and referring the matter to the President with a statement of the facts.

RICHMOND, Jan. 17.—The substitute for the Committee report, in the case of the Hon. H. S. Foote, was not adopted in the House, yesterday. Final action on the resolution declaring the report of the Committee to be the judgment of the House resulted in—yeas 32, nays 36.

RICHMOND, Jan. 17.—In the Senate a bill passed increasing the maximum rates of compensation allowed to Railroad Companies for the transportation of the mail.

In the House McMullin made a personal explanation, declaring, that, if the Sentinel or its correspondent chose to arraign his action as being traitorous, he pronounced them *infamous liars.*

Mr. Miles submitted a resolution, which was adopted, for the appointment of a Joint Committee to prepare an address to the people of the Confederate States, assuring them of the unalterable determination of Congress to prosecute the war, &c.

The death of Gen. Morgan was formally announced in the House, by a Representative from Texas, and after the pronouncement of eulogies and the adoption of customary resolutions, the House adjourned.

No Northern papers received to-day.

From Richmond and the North.

RICHMOND, Jan. 16.—Judge Halliburton has awarded a writ of Habeas Corpus, ordering the Provost Marshal of Fredericksburg to bring Mr. Foote before him Thursday.

The New York Times of the 15th received. It has very little news. The Yankee Senate had passed a consulator, approving the bill after substituting the words "Republic of," before Mexico.

Jim Lane has been elected Senator from Kansas.

The recent flood in the James river opened the channel of the Dutch Gap Canal.

Sickles has sailed for California.

Mr. Foote has arrived at Washington.

From Charleston.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 17.—A Yankee monitor on picket duty between forts Moultrie and Sumter, was sunk last night, supposed by torpedoes—only the smokestack left above the water. A deserter reports the force on the line of the Salkitchie consists of the seventeenth and a part of the fifteenth corps; their destination Charleston. A considerable body of the enemy's infantry moved about noon within two and a half miles of Combahee ridge, but afterwards retired to their intrenchments at Gardner's corner.

Northern News.

JACKSON, Jan. 15.—Memphis papers of the 10th and Vicksburg of the 14th have been received. A large amount of money has been raised in New York and other cities, for the sufferers at Savannah. Brigadier General Geary takes command of Savannah, and Sherman was marching upon Branchville. Federal troops were concentrating at Florence in large numbers. Troops are passing down the Mississippi. Washburne is in command of Vicksburg and Dana of Memphis.

Thomas says he has not met the stubborn resistance promised from Forrest's and Hood's armies. They could not cross the Tennessee river.

Lincoln says foreigners bought the Savannah cotton by the sale of arms, and therefore decleares it forfeited.

Generals Johnston, Jackson, and Smith have been sent to Fort Warren.

The World says England and France will not permit the Union to be restored, but will recognize the Confederacy before the 4th of March.

Gold falling—224.

Further from the North.

MOBILE, Jan. 16.—A special dispatch to the Register, dated Senatobia, January 16, says the Chicago Times of the 25th, (?) and Memphis papers of the 12th, had been received, which state that Fort Smith had been evacuated by the Federals. Confederate forces, artillery and infantry, got between Little Rock and that place, compelling the evacuation.

Rumors are rife of an intended raid from Memphis. The lines are kept very close.

Late European correspondents say that Lord Russell has intimated to Mr. Mason, that there was no longer any just cause for not recognising the Confederate Government.

From Petersburg.

PETERSBURG, Jan. 16.—A flag of truce has been observed in the lines here to-day, and white flags have been flying at different points. In consequence, not a gun has been fired. Several parties going Northwest passed through the lines this morning.

Confederate Congress.

RICHMOND, Jan. 16.—In the Senate, nothing of importance. In the House yesterday, Mr. Marshall moved to reconsider the bill to impose a duty on Tobacco, and an additional duty on Cotton, with instructions to report a bill to take all the Cotton and Tobacco in the Confederacy on account of the Government, and provide for the future payment therefor to owners at present market value.

This proposition was discussed yesterday and to-day without result. The House went into secret session after the expiration of the morning hour.

Mr. Foote arrived this afternoon from Fredericksburg. The Secretary of War directed yesterday that he be released. Mr. Foote refused to accept his discharge, and insisted to be brought before Judge Halyburton.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Jan. 11th.]

Among the arrivals by the flag of truce boat last night, was that of Mr. Edward A. Pollard, of this city, sent through the lines for exchange. Mr. Pollard reported at Fortress Monroe on the 30th of November last for exchange, and, without any known cause, was placed there in close and *solitary* confinement in a guard box, where he lived for some weeks without space to walk in and sheltered from the weather only by a shell of boards, ventilated through seams half an inch wide. This was in consequence of a direct order from Secretary Stanton, who, in this instance as in others of the oppression of our prisoners, is directly and personally responsible. Strange to say, Butler relieved Mr Pollard from a situation in which Mr. Pollard says that an officer of the guard at Fortress Monroe declared that a man could not reasonably be expected to survive for two weeks.

As it is the last act which Butler can probably ever do to a Confederate prisoner, it may be mentioned for his benefit. For we learn from Mr Pollard, that on Sunday last, General Butler was removed not only from the command of the army of the James, but from all other command, and ordered by the Adjutant-General at Washington to report himself at *Lowell, Massachusetts*, which is his residence. The terms of this order were construed to the effect that B. F. B. had been removed in disgrace. Major-General Ord takes command of the army of the James and of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina; but this is supposed to be only an arrangement *ad interim*. In any event, Butler is shelved for the war; and it is thought a not improbable consequence that we may next hear of this individual declaring a War against the politicians at Washington.

We have from Mr. Pollard and other sources of information the most positive assurances that the Blair mission is still afoot, and that since the announcement in the Northern papers of their return to Richmond, they have re-appeared on the lines of the Yankee army. Blair, *pere*, was at Aiken's house yesterday morning. There is no mistake about this; and the detention of the Confederate prisoners at that point since Friday was understood to have been in consequence of the precedence under the flag of truce of the business of the Blairs, whatever it may be. A new shade of mystery has been given to the matter which it is impossible to penetrate as yet.

During Mr. Pollard's term as a prisoner—eight months—he had an interval of parole on account of his health, in which he had opportunities of visiting many of the Northern cities—New York, Boston, Brooklyn, Baltimore, &c., and thus gathering much of the true public sentiment and political designs of the North. He says generally, that while there is not the least hope for the South in any present political organization in the North, there are grounds of encouragement in the military situation of which the people of the Confederacy have nothing like adequate ideas; that the military resources of the North, although superabundant and impressing at the first view, are not practically available, and are fast being contracted by certain moral forces which the newspapers do not take into their calculation; that their system of draft, hitherto patched up by foreign enlistments, negro enlistments and bounties, is nearly at the point of exhaustion; that the draft of last summer, for 500,000 men, furnished but *seventy thousand effectives*; that the expedient of bounties cannot be carried much further, some counties having already been taxed on this score actually in excess of the value of all the real and personal property within their limits, some for instance in New-York State having accumulated a debt of a million and a half of dollars on the single account of military largesses; and that, finally, all intelligent men in the North are given to the opinion that when the necessities of the war are pushed to the point of an enforced draft, of an actual conscription, that it is precisely at that period and precisely from that cause that the war will and must break down. Thus the conclusion may be drawn that the independence of the Confederacy is to be achieved more surely by the sheer force of *endurance* than by anything else, and that even if we should fail to accomplish it by the signal strokes of military fortune, it will be worked out at the last, and that much more speedily than is generally supposed, by a simple competition of the real resolution of the South with a confidence in the North, now bloated and swaggering, but really on the verge of the last and fatal necessity—which is not finances, not political revolutions, or any of that bosh of the prophets of peace, but simply *conscription.*

All the bridges on the Neuse River, east of this city, except Powell's and Battle's, were swept away by the recent freshet.